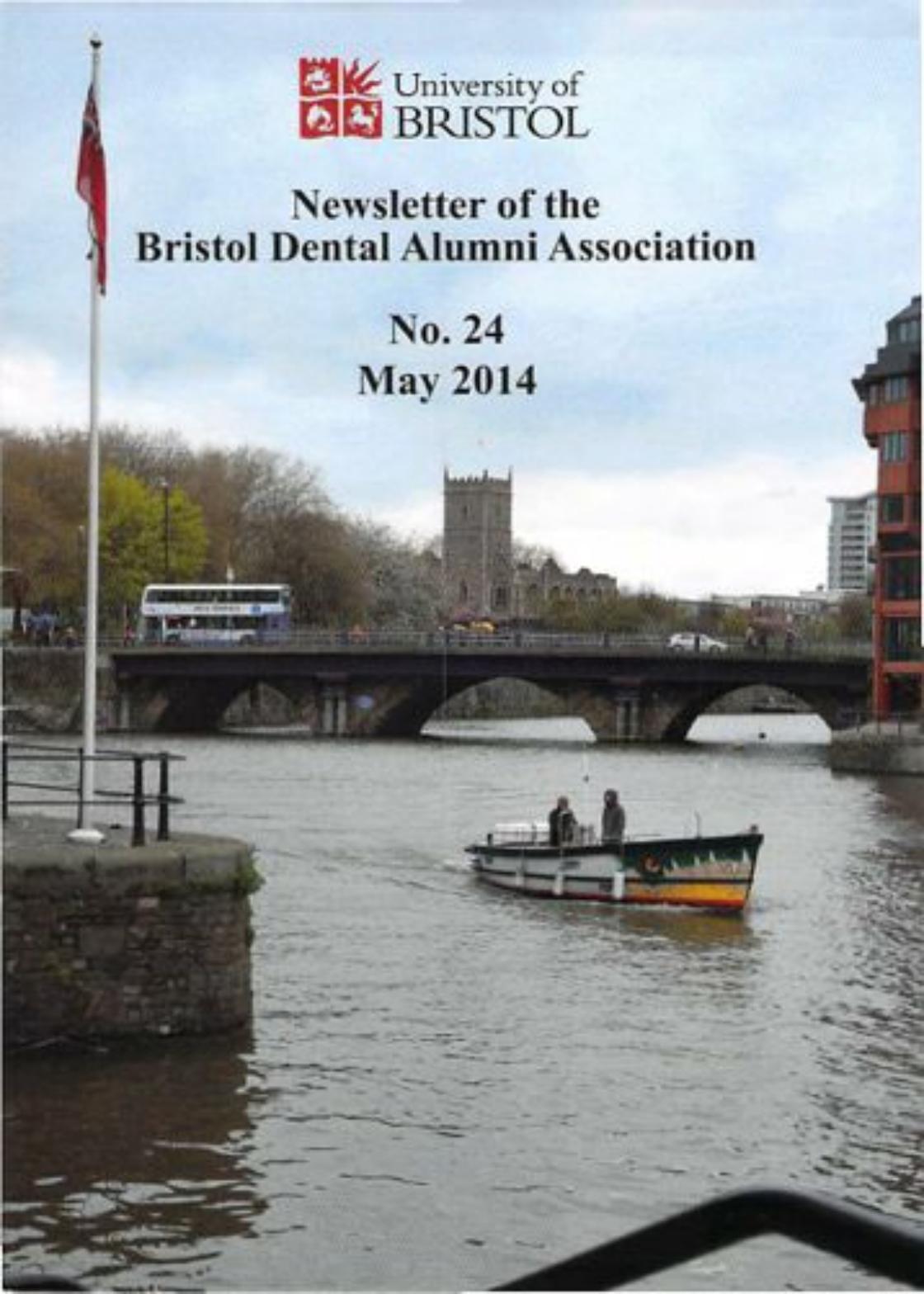




**Newsletter of the
Bristol Dental Alumni Association**

**No. 24
May 2014**



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

Committee 2013-2014

Chairman - and Editor of Newsletter	:	Reg Andlaw
Secretary	:	Gary Mendham
Treasurer	:	Iain Hathorn
Membership Secretary	:	Ken Marshall
Dental Clinical Dean	:	Lisa McNally
Senior President UBDSS	:	Tamara Khayatt
President UBDSS	:	Ashwynn Dhar
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Cover photograph by Peter Miller: The 1768 Bristol Bridge, from Welsh Back.

From the Chairman/Editor

Reg Andlaw



I'm sorry to say that this will be the last issue of our annual Newsletter. The first was in 1990, when I took over as BDAA Chairman and decided that we needed a newsletter to communicate with our members. I elected myself Editor and the Newsletter has grown from a simple leaflet in 1991 to a booklet of up to 50 pages. It has been a labour of love for me, an annual battle to get articles in by a deadline (often unsuccessful), much correspondence with students and alumni regarding elective and

reunion reports but, in the end, considerable satisfaction with kind feedback received over the years. For this final issue we have pushed the boat out and had all the photographs printed in colour – and I have replaced the ‘mugshot’ that has headed my annual message since 2005 with a recent one, just to prove to those kind people at reunions who have told me “you never change” that they were wrong. Unfortunately!

In the early years ‘snail mail’ was the only means of communicating with all our members, but times have changed and there are now other, less laborious and time-consuming, ways of achieving this. We have had a website for a few years which Chris Stephens has successfully managed, but sadly it is no longer functional and much of the information on it has fallen out of date. Soon it will be replaced by a new website, details of which are given by Gary Mendham in his article. Information in the website will be supplemented by regular email newsletters to keep you in touch – for those who have resisted the allure of the computer age (there must be a few) we would be happy to send a hard copy if you request it.

Nikki Atack, our esteemed Secretary since January 2004, has stepped



down after a 10-year stint which she completed despite leading a very busy life as a consultant orthodontist and bringing up a young family. Committee members showed their appreciation at her last meeting in February. The succession was achieved surprisingly smoothly: Gary Mendham, who had recently been co-opted to the Committee (little did he know what was in store for him) was asked, he agreed, so all sorted! Gary is a 1980 graduate but, having intercalated in physiology on the way, he was really a member of the 1978 graduating group. For several years leading up to 1990, he ran the Bristol Dental Alumni with three colleagues (Paul Baines, Alun Jones and Phil Key) so he has now returned after a break of 24 years. Gary has been a general practitioner in Bristol since graduation. He keeps fit running and cycling trying to keep up with his wife Janine who regularly competes in triathlon events. The other new member of our Committee is Ashwynn Dhar, this year's UBDSS President. He grew up in Buckinghamshire. He rates that one of the highlights of his time at dental school has been winning the award for "funniest dentist." He is a self-confessed "news junkie", and enjoys cricket, swimming and badminton.

A significant milestone was passed recently: the 1000 membership mark. This, of course, is to be celebrated (we had hoped to identify the 1000th person to join but this proved impossible) but what it has meant is very much more work (and headaches) for Membership Secretary Ken Marshall. Ken joined our committee and took on the membership secretary role in 2010. Up to that time I had done it but, as you will gather when you read his article, it is at that time that the job became much more demanding. It's clear that I got out of it just in time! I hope you will all read his article and do everything you possibly can to lighten his burden.

It is heartening to see, year after year, the number of year-group reunions that are held – seven last year – reflecting the draw of happy memories of student days in Bristol. It's been a real pleasure for me to have attended many of them over the years. Nine more are already being planned for later this year, and more may be announced in due course.

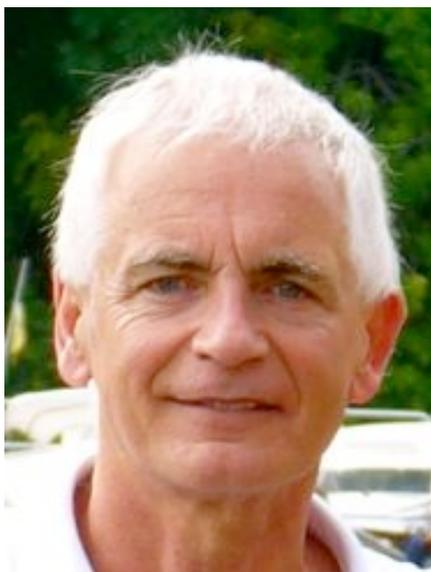
Treasurer Iain Hathorn has reported that the financial state of the Association "is in good health." One of the stated aims in our Constitution is "to support worthy causes associated with the Dental School" and we are sure you want your subscriptions to be used to that effect. The major beneficiary has been the library (£14,728 donated since 2002) and future donations will be used for library books (now mostly located in the Medical School) or for the CAL Centre. We also continue to give some help to students for expenses incurred during their electives, present two prizes for elective

projects, and support students' events like the Dental Ball and Final Year Dinner. Donations were also made last year to support the Bristol Hannover Exchange and to purchase a camera for teaching at the South Bristol Community Hospital dental clinic where students gain valuable clinical experience.

This being the last issue of this Newsletter, I want to thank all who have contributed articles and reports over the last 24 years, thereby helping to keep members in touch with happenings in Bristol and with what we, as their Association, have been doing. Special thanks go to Dominic Alder who has been involved in the production of the Newsletter for 12 years, ever since he volunteered to help when he was working in the Child Dental Health office. He has given me invaluable support – I have collected and edited the material, he has put it all together.

From the Secretary

Gary Mendham



Following a comment I made to Reg Andlaw after reading last year's editorial in our Newsletter I found myself in touch with Chris Stephens regarding the idea of getting a portrait of Professor Declan Anderson hung on the library wall alongside those of Professors Darling, Bradford and Berry. I'm happy to report that my venture proved successful and along the way I had many email exchanges regarding, amongst other things, the state of the BDAA. These emails led to an invitation for a drink in the

Cambridge Arms, meeting Reg, Ken Marshall, Chris Stephens, Iain Hathorn, and a few others, enjoying a well-deserved pint after a very wet and windy cycle ride home one Wednesday evening in December. Shortly after, I received an invitation from Reg to join the BDAA Committee, which I accepted. I had been involved with its predecessor (just the 'Alumni' as it was then) back in the early 80s before it was passed over to Reg and transformed into the organisation you have today. Things then moved on swiftly, however, as Nikki Atack, having been Secretary for 10 years, decided she needed to spend more time with her young family and was rather hopeful someone could take over the job. So, by the end

of January and within two months of being invited to join the Committee as a co-opted member, Reg upped the ante by saying he needed to find a volunteer to take over the position of Secretary and that he thought I was “just the man!”

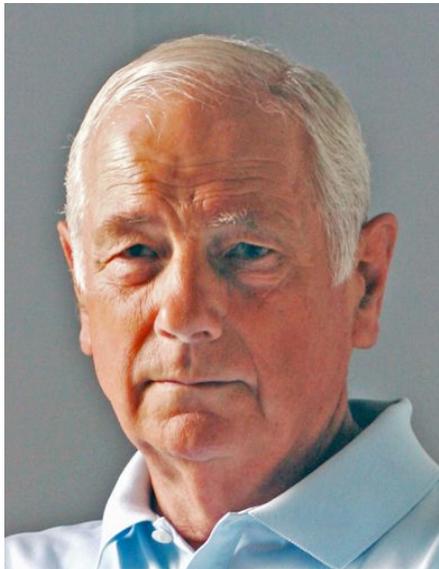
I was only too pleased to help out and in less than a month I have attended my first committee meeting, sent and received countless emails and have only just realised what an enormous amount of work goes on behind the scenes into the running of the Association. I feel it therefore only appropriate that I use my first chance of writing in an official capacity as Secretary to thank Nikki on behalf of the whole Association for all of her hard work in the preceding ten years.

In January Reg announced to the committee that our annual Newsletter, in its current form, would be his last. It was agreed that, to fit in better with more modern forms of communication, a major revamp of the BDAA website should take place, and I am in the process of getting this organised. The website will hopefully be supplemented by several email newsletters sent throughout the year. I have always enjoyed and looked forward to receiving the annual Newsletter, and especially enjoy reading the Chairman’s report together with news from the School and all the reports of reunions and student electives. Hopefully Reg and others will agree to continue to write these for many years to come.

Currently I am only in the early stages of having the code written for a new website but please get into the habit of checking on a regular basis to see when any updates have taken place. I have recently been scanning past editions of the UBDSS magazine *Mouthpiece*, which many of you will remember, and I hope to put all of these archived versions on the site too – I’m sure you will enjoy reading them again just as I have. To that end, if any of you has news you feel may be of interest to members then please forward it to me and I’ll do my best to include it on one of the new website pages – my email address is on the inside front cover of this newsletter.

From the Membership Secretary

Ken Marshall



For the last two to three years a concerted effort has been made to establish an expanded electronic database of the contact details, graduation dates and payment records of members of the Association. This has been relatively easy to achieve for new members and for those established members who have participated in our various recent activities. The starting point for the exercise, however, was the BDAA's existing hard copy membership list consisting simply of the names, graduating dates and postal addresses of members accumulated over the years since the Association's inception. The accuracy of the content and addresses on this list had relied on the fact that the University Alumnus Office provided the Association with an annually updated list from their records of the postal addresses of those we assumed to be our members. This list was in the form of printed labels for the Newsletter envelopes. The University unfortunately had to withdraw this service three years ago and it then became the Association's responsibility to maintain the accuracy of all of the data on its expanded membership records and to provide the means from this for mass mailings to members – both hard copy and electronic.

The initial step taken to achieve this was to send a contact updating form with the annual Newsletter in 2012. This achieved a partial success (315 replies), but the lack of response from many of those included in our membership list raised the question of whether or not they actually received the Newsletter or simply couldn't be bothered to reply. The second phase, therefore, was to use the Association's bank statements in an attempt to identify those who were actually subscribing members. This revealed that there was a distinct discrepancy between those on the historical membership list and those who were found to be paying membership subscriptions. This scrutiny of the standing order payments has now been repeated for a second year and has revealed the following:

- All of the standing order payees except for 16 have been

identified

- This leaves 178 graduates on the historical database from whom no subscriptions have been received
- Only 370 current members (34%) are paying the new £10 subscription
- The remaining members identified are paying £1, £3, £5 or £6, or a combination of these sums, with each member's annual amount in total amounting to less than the £10 due.
- Regrettably, there are odd individuals who are paying the subscription amount monthly rather than yearly – obviously a bank error, but we have been unable to inform some of these members of their overpayment because they are among the 16 who have no clear standing order payment identifier or have changed their contact details.

Additional measures already taken:

- As the expense of sending Newsletters to everyone on the historical database in addition to our other annual financial commitments cannot be covered by the received annual subscriptions, no Newsletters have been sent to 'members' unless they have been identified as currently paying subscriptions. This still leaves 16 subscribing members who should be receiving Newsletters but cannot be identified
- The last issue of the Newsletter was sent with a 'return to sender' notice on the envelopes and this resulted in 30 returns, which would hopefully indicate that the vast majority were actually received
- By accessing the UK Dental Register some of these returns were able to be redirected but others were either not on the UK register, were abroad and not traceable through their national registers or had presumably had a surname and/or address change (female graduates)

What we would like all members to do:

- Check their bank statements to ensure that they are paying the correct subscription (a single annual amount of £10) and amend if appropriate
- The simplest way of eliminating multiple payments is to instruct the bank to cancel all amounts paid to the BDAA prior to activating payment of the new subscription – start date February 1 each year

- It would also be useful, if possible, for standing order identifiers to be confirmed with and, if necessary a change be requested by, the bank so that there is clarity as to who has made the payment. At present there are odd, essentially anonymous, identifiers ranging from a simple “credit received” to “home account”, “M E J S”, “AJC Hereford”, “Shah’s two” and “N C F A Ltd S W” etc
- This would also apply to those with the more common surnames such as Davies, Jones, Patel, Shah, Thomas and Williams. A surname alone is clearly not sufficient and clearer bank identifiers with either full first names or at least all first name initials would be desirable
- **Most importantly, all changes of name, postal and e-mail address should be notified by e-mail to kjmar@ymail.com**

The Dental School Year

Lisa McNally, Dental Clinical Dean



The School continues to attract praise. Following a visit to the School on 24th June 2013 by Evlynne Gilvarry, Chief Executive and Registrar of the General Dental Council, during which she was given a tour of the pre-clinical and clinical facilities and held a meeting with staff and student representatives, she commented that she “came away with a very rounded view of the programme, that the session with members of staff and student leaders was particularly helpful, and that the dedication and enthusiasm of the staff

is abundantly evident – a key factor in delivering a successful programme.” A report of the Student Review Panel in November stated that they were extremely impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm for teaching within the School and with its research strategy, and the results of the National Student Survey (NSS) showed that Bristol is strong in most areas compared with other dental schools (although there was dissatisfaction with library resources and services, probably related to conversion of the library space into a Computer Assisted Learning suite, with books and journals being relocated in the Medical School library) and that students were highly appreciative of staff and, overall, content with

their experience.

Professor Jonathan Sandy, Head of School, is to be congratulated on being appointed Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. He will take up his new post in May and serve for 1 year. Sarah Bain will be the interim Head of School, with Dr Michelle Barbour as deputy and Dr Andrea Waylen (Senior Lecturer in Psychology) as SWAN lead. Newly-appointed professors are Dr A. Ireland (Orthodontics and Related Biomaterials) and Dr Bo Su (Biomedical Materials). A key focus now for the School is the inspection by the GDC in April and, in June, inspection of our Finals examination process.

The Educational Support Team of the School of Oral and Dental Science (the School's official University title) has been awarded the Dean's Award for Education following a large number of nominations and overwhelming support from the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry Board. One nominator commented that "the team provides fantastic support for delivery of dental education, particularly for the BDS programme, which is reflected by excellent NSS scores in recent years including 100% satisfaction for this programme in 2012."

The School has been awarded an Athena SWAN Silver Award. The Athena SWAN Charter evolved from work between the Athena Project and the Scientific Women's Academic Network (SWAN) to advance the representation of women in science, engineering and technology. The award is a significant accolade for the School which is the first and (at the time of writing) the only dental school to have received such an award.

Several of the current students distinguished themselves during the last year. Amelia Voss won the Bristol heat of a UK-wide clinical skills competition and represented the University of Bristol against 15 other dental students in a Grand Final at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh on 6th March this year. Paul Davies with Michael Hutchings, Caroline Newell with Maria Nickowski, and Frans Banki presented posters reporting their work at the annual scientific meeting of the British Association of Head and Neck Oncology in London. Mark Watts received a Convocation Award for the voluntary work he has done over several years, last year in Belarus with a charity called the 5Cs (Chernobyl Children Cancer Care Cardiff) working in a summer camp for disabled children. In addition, recent (2013) graduates Laura Cove and Amy Hughes presented their elective research project at the BDA/Dentsply Student Clinician competition in London last March, and Lydia Harris was third in the national competition for the Young Dentist Endodontic Award. Nimi Malde and Roshni Malde (2012) received a national

award from the British Society for Maxillofacial Radiology at their meeting in Bristol last year, receiving the award from the Society's President Dr Jane Luker.

The Hannover Exchange reached its 40th anniversary last year. A party of two staff and 11 students from Hannover visited us, and Gordon Gray hosted the visit, with assistance from other staff and students. An exchange visit to Hannover will follow this year.

Dr Jane Luker has succeeded Alasdair Miller as Dental Postgraduate Dean. Bristol University Open Learning for Dentists (BUOLD) is the most popular postgraduate diploma course in the UK. Over 900 diplomas have been awarded since 1994 from a distance/blended learning programme that offered students the chance to study over 12 subjects - completing three of them resulted in the award of a diploma. A new programme (called BUOLD 21C after Professor Robin Matthews won the prize for naming it) now offers students the choice of studying three units per annum for two years to gain a diploma or certificate.

The South Bristol Community Hospital in Hartcliffe is not only providing students with valuable clinical experience (as noted in our 2013 Newsletter) but is also proving to be an excellent teaching and learning environment. During the summer vacation it was used for the Postgraduate KIT (Keeping in Touch) scheme. Six portable 'phantom heads' were used by dentists wishing to refresh their clinical skills. Courses have also been run for dental care professionals on impression-taking and fluoride application.

The School hosted the 60th Annual Meeting of the British Society for Oral and Dental Research in September. The Dean of the Faculty, Professor Peter Mathieson, opened the meeting and welcomed delegates at a reception in the Assembly Rooms in Bath. The meeting attracted 250 delegates from UK and overseas.

A team led by Dr Michele Barbour (Senior Lecturer in Biomaterials) has been awarded a grant by the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council (EPSRC) to develop wound dressings incorporating novel antimicrobial nanoparticles which were developed in the School and patented by the University in 2013. The dressings will be used to protect entry sites for venous catheters.

Another EPSRC-funded project is a joint collaboration between the School and the Centre for Cell Engineering at the University of Glasgow. The Bristol team of Dr Bo Su, Dr Angela Nobbs and Dr Terje Sjoström will work with Dr Matt Dalby and his team in Glasgow to generate novel micro/nanopatterned titanium surfaces and to study their effects on bacterial adhesion/biofilm formation and stem cell adhesion/differentiation. It is hoped the project will lead to development of novel osseointegrative and

antimicrobial materials for future orthopaedic and dental implants.
There's a lot going on - and will continue.

The Students' Year

Ashwynn Dhar, UBDSS President



In June 2013, a new committee was elected to take over the running of the University of Bristol Dental Student Society (UBDSS). The results were announced in the traditional manner: at an annual charity auction in our very own dental bar, organised by the previous committee. Since then, we have been incredibly busy.

Our 5th years have been focussing on elective reports, negotiating their way through the national vocational training system, battling gateways and are now well into intensive preparation for finals as they approach the final hurdle of their half decade here.

As for the rest of the School we have had a number of big achievements. What's remarkable is the synergistic nature of the students and staff in getting things done. Working with staff, this committee has been able to relocate books into the dental school from the medical library, look at getting travel reimbursement for outreach hospitals, get the publication of key documents out there so we know what we need to do to progress each year, and work to overcome issues ranging from administration through to broken locks and bins in our locker rooms! Perhaps most importantly for current students we have worked with our ever-resolute licence holder, Dr Gordon Gray, to ensure our bar is still run by us for us, despite on-going external pressures.

Sporting-wise, this year has seen a surge of interest in our football and netball teams, named 'oral intruders' and 'ultrasonics' respectively. Pleasingly, there is particular interest from the lower years, helping to bridge the gaps left by final years and allowing for the cultivation of younger talent by our respected and universally liked sports captains. Our football captain takes it upon himself to write superb match reports and conduct witty interviews with stars of the day, and our netball team rally around their much admired captain as they compete in the top division of the intramural league. Additionally, we were able to send full contingents to the BDSA

(British Dental Student Association) Sports Day in Cardiff this year and, though we didn't win, all involved had a superb time.

In terms of social events, this committee had an overriding wish to better integrate the School. With this in mind we kicked off with an inaugural 'PROBE' bar crawl with each letter symbolising a different fancy dress theme for each of the 5 years. Following this we had two 'late bars', for Halloween and Christmas, when our bar is open until 6am with DJs and all the accompanying paraphernalia, along with all the expected mess the morning after! A superb ski trip followed this and before I knew it 2013 was over.

2014 kicked off with the annual Dental Ball organised by the 5th years, this year in the magnificent Bristol Museum and Art Gallery; though on a personal note I can't cite being asked to deliver a speech to 300 inebriated peers without a microphone as a highlight of my Presidency!

Following a period of exams (we work too!), we picked up in March for an annual 'VEDICS' (vets, dentists, lawyers and medics) bar crawl and sent heavy numbers of year 1, 2 and 3 on their way to Cardiff for a joint social. We now look forward to putting on a superb revue for year 5 and, after our own end of year OSCE, a trip to the races, poker tournaments with our newly purchased UBDSS Poker set, and a mystery 'ENIGMA' night before handing over to the next committee.

Interspersed with all this has been the BDSA Conference in Sheffield, the process of updating our communications and removing our website, several more late bars, strengthening the personal tutor systems, searching for more sponsors and a plethora of other activity.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to express the sincere and deep gratitude of the student body for the help and contributions made by the BDAA, our alumni association, to support us – and to wish you all the very best.

BRISTOL HANNOVER EXCHANGE

Gordon Gray



The 40th anniversary of the annual exchange took place in October 2013 and was held in Bristol. It is unusual for the exchange to take place so late in the year but Hannover were hosting an international event in their Dental School during our customary week in June. Normally, we can rely on the good weather in June to show Bristol and the surrounding countryside of the south west off to good effect. However, we had a mixed week of showers, sunny intervals and some heavy downpours. It was not enough to dampen the spirits of the students who enjoyed a week of academic and cultural activities.

Establishment of a link with the Hannover dental school was proposed by Professor Eric Bradford and set up by Ken Marshall with Professor Till Jung in Hannover in 1973. The exchange involves pairing 12 of our students with a similar number from Hannover who are accompanied by two members of staff. Each student hosts a German in their apartment and provides breakfast for them, while the rest of the meals are provided by the exchange. The exchange has been successful in the past by fostering elective research projects for students and staff. Indeed, one of the German members of staff now holds a PhD from the University of Bristol. The BDAA kindly provided some financial support for the exchange this year for which we are very grateful. The Exchange Society is not supported directly by the University or the Dental School but the students have to raise funds themselves.

The dress code between our two dental schools was a major topic of discussion as the German students attend their Dental School wearing denim. Their tunics however, are long and completely smoother their outdoor clothing. They were somewhat amused by the scrub suits that our students wear and referred to them as 'pyjamas'. The other amusing fact for them was our infection control standard of 'bare or naked below the elbow'. Conversely, while our students would 'dress down' for going out in the evening by wearing denim, the Germans 'dressed up' and wear smart clothes.

The German students commented on how treatments vary between our two countries. The placement of a crown differs greatly and the Germans believe their method is more accurate than ours. However, this is something that we need to see for ourselves before

passing comment. The exchange students were particularly intrigued that Bristol Dental School had its very own Oral Medicine Clinic on site as this is a subject that is taught as a postgraduate subject in Hannover. The German contingent enjoyed the tour and observation sessions on our clinics.

The myriad academic and social benefits of the Hannover exchange are matched by the cultural enrichment such an enterprise encourages. Dentistry, like all disciplines, benefits from the exchange of knowledge and approaches from around the world. In the cosy confines of our Dental School it is easy to forget that there are thousands of dental students being taught in diverse ways, by tutors with varying philosophies, in every corner of the globe. Despite the relatively short distance our Hanoverian guests had to travel to reach us, the exchange gave us an insight into our subtle cultural disparities. These differences appeared in the social arena, for example the incredible propensity for West Country Cider our guests exhibited. Germans are famous for their beer but were unprepared for our local Exhibition Cider. It was also manifested in a typically continental panache for accurate time keeping. However, after an intense one-week period of bonding, perhaps what was most obvious was our numerous cultural similarities.



When our German guests arrived in Bristol I don't think they were prepared for how hilly our city is compared to the flat landscape around Hannover. We all enjoyed some days out together. The

professionally led walking tour of Bristol provided many snippets of Bristolian history which everyone found very interesting. The weather in Bristol had been relatively good for October so it was a bit of a shock for our guests when we crossed the Severn Bridge into Wales. Sadly, the weather let us down when we visited the Big Pit but the Welsh valleys are always more impressive in the pouring rain and howling wind. On the night-life front we visited a diversity of Bristol establishments. The exchange was an exciting opportunity to engage with students with very different academic and personal backgrounds. We look forward to our return journey to Hannover in June 2014.

Bristol is the only UK dental school that runs a foreign exchange programme and we are very lucky to be part of this special relationship with Hannover Dental School. It gives us the opportunity to learn about their curriculum and how it transfers to treating patients in practice.

The planning that went into the timetable by the committee for the exchange was meticulous. The budget is always tight so we really had to get creative in a bid to show the Hannover students a good time. We found a healthy balance between education, culture, entertainment and dining - though with the Hannover students complaining of how full they were, we may have overdone the gastronomical aspect.

Taking part in the exchange has allowed us to establish great friendships with fellow dental students that we would not have had the opportunity to meet otherwise. It has also allowed those of us in the committee to grow closer and realise the true meaning of teamwork. Students who have previously taken part in the exchange still talk about it and many are still in touch with their exchange partners. We're all very much looking forward to our time in Hannover this summer and I'm sure we'll have our own stories to tell.

STUDENT ELECTIVES

The Provision of Dental Care in Cusco, Peru

Ashni Shah and Saadia Ikram



It was the summer of 2013 when we finally got the opportunity to do dentistry abroad. It was something we always wanted to do. We chose Peru because its rich historical culture and vast landscapes always fascinated us. Although both of us had reasonable travelling

experience, neither of us had visited South America. In addition, this experience would give us the opportunity to learn Spanish, one of the most widely spoken languages in the world.

After choosing the destination, there was a lot of planning involved including finding the best deal on flights, reading up on the country and, of course, organising our travels after we finished the dental aspect of our trip in Peru. The organisation which assisted our elective project is called Mundo Verde, a charitable establishment located in Cusco. They take on volunteers from around the world to help them carry out various projects such as the dental outreach project we participated in, but also areas in medicine and conservation work in the Amazon rainforest. What we particularly liked about this organisation was not only its passion to help the less privileged citizens in their country but also their main goal which was to conserve the Amazon rainforest. A lot of the money we paid went towards this project and we thought this was important since the Amazon provides approximately 20% of the Earth's oxygen.

The aims of the elective were to observe and then appraise the provision of dental care in Cusco and to add to our skillset of experiencing dental practice in a less developed environment than what we practise in the UK. Mundo Verde had arranged a two-week timetable for us. The first week included observation in a government-run dental clinic, allowing exposure to dental healthcare service in Peru and close observation of local dentists. The second week involved visiting a school in a rural area as an outreach project to provide basic dental care to the school children. Because the students came from poor families, the organisation also provided lunch as part of their service.

The government-run dental clinic, Siete Cuartano, is situated in Cusco city centre. It is funded by a government scheme which serves basic dental facilities to the local public who are unemployed or of a low income. The dental clinic was based in a single room, within a larger clinic that encompassed other areas of healthcare. The conditions were very basic, with limited instruments and equipment available. The dental unit consisted of a high-speed handpiece but no slow-speed handpiece or suction. The majority of the patients presented with pain and, as well as observing, we were given the opportunity to carry out some treatment ourselves. Like in the UK, pain and infection are addressed first; with the treatment plan formed accordingly. At the clinic, the clinicians were only able to carry out basic restorations or extractions, so the patients were given the option to either have the tooth extracted or be referred to an endodontic specialist for root canal treatment. The decision made by the patients was fundamentally determined by the cost.

Despite the use of basic resources and limited treatment, we found that the overall principles of practising dentistry were similar to that in the UK. It was interesting to practise dentistry using basic facilities and it made us realise that treatment is more than adequately possible with the limited equipment that was available. However, it is less comfortable for patients and interruptive for the dentist. Because we did not visit a private clinic, we are not able to comment on what equipment is used there for dental treatment.

The second week was spent at a school located in the rural areas of Cusco, in a district named Santiago where the children have a high prevalence of caries. The outreach project involved charting, diagnosing, treatment planning and treating children aged five to eleven, with supervision by a local dentist. Communication with the children was in Spanish which we began to learn before embarking on the trip as well as during the trip with the help of a Spanish teacher. An Android application was also useful in teaching us specific Spanish dental terms. We were provided with a classroom which we set up ourselves and each class was seen individually. The teeth were charted and a diagnosis was made from mere clinical assessment, which was either restorable caries or unrestorable caries - a treatment plan was constructed accordingly. Due to the limitations, the treatment undertaken involved the Atraumatic Restorative Technique (ART), whereby hand instruments were used to excavate the carious tooth tissue followed by the placement of glass ionomer cement in the cavity. Grossly carious teeth were extracted under local anaesthesia, and oral hygiene instructions were given in Spanish. To help the children remember the oral hygiene instructions



Ashni and Saadia treating children at the school

we created a leaflet in Spanish for them to take away with them. Carrying out extractions was difficult as not only were there practical limitations but for many children this was the first time they were exposed to a dentist and therefore an extraction with administration of local anaesthetic at their first visit could have instilled some dental phobia.

The week spent at the school was the most practical and rewarding aspect of our elective. This is where we faced the most challenges regarding limitations in equipment, dealing with a poor community and the language barrier. It made us realise that behaviour management is a key aspect in managing child patients to create a rapport and prevent dental phobia.

Our aims to increase dental awareness in the rural community of Cusco and help to reduce the level of disease in these children were met, as well as to experience dentistry in a foreign country. Our personal aims were also met, as we experienced a unique and valuable opportunity delivering dental care and raising awareness for those who required it in a country more than six thousand miles away from home; even if it was on a small scale, it was still rewarding. This experience has given us a desire to continue to volunteer our dental services in the future, once we are qualified dentists and able to fund our own trips.

We would like to thank Professor Jonathan Sandy, Maria Davies and Pablo Miranda for their guidance and support with this project. We would also like to thank Bristol Dental Alumni Association for their financial contribution and TePe dental company for providing us with toothbrushes which we handed out to the children.

Evaluation of dental services provided in an outreach clinic in a Nepalese village

Ashleigh Mabin



The 4th year elective project presented a fantastic opportunity to do something I had always wanted – to practise dentistry abroad on people in need. In Nepal, 40% of the population live in poverty, and their dental care needs are not met. Dental professionals tend to cluster in urban areas, leaving the large portion of the population who live in rural areas with little access to care. A further problem is that 90% of dentists work privately (too expensive), and the public sector (6% of dentists) is oversaturated and underfunded.

The *Work the World* organisation (WTW) set up a basic temporary two-week dental clinic in the remote village of Dandakharka in Nepal that would not ordinarily have access to dental care. Fourteen senior dental students screened and treated the 902 villagers that visited the clinic for free, providing screening, treatment planning, extractions, restorations, scaling, and oral hygiene instruction with toothbrushes and paste.

The aims of the elective project were:

1. To record the types of treatments provided to the patients attending the dental outreach clinic;
2. To evaluate the quality of the dental services provided (screening, diagnosis and treatment);
3. To evaluate the benefit of the presence of the dental clinic both locally and nationally.

The majority (43%) of clinical procedures completed were extractions, which provided immediate and definitive pain relief. Restorations followed close behind, totalling 36% of clinical procedures. Preventative treatment took up only a small fraction of procedures (scaling and fluoride application). However, due to the time constraints of the clinic and the large number of patients attending, of the 3909 treatments that were clinically indicated during the screening process, we were only able to complete 1222 (31%). It poses a question that cannot easily be answered: which is more beneficial, to screen a large number of patients and treat only a small portion of each individual's needs, or limit the screening to a smaller number and see to all their treatment needs?

Evaluation of the quality of the dental services provided was

extensive, so only main points are summarized:

The screening facilities were very basic – a chair, translator, mirror, probe and torch. Caries detection was straightforward in obvious gross caries and swelling, but fissure and interproximal caries were hard to diagnose (no air spray or X-rays), causing us to rely on visual and tactile detection.



Treatment planning in the patients' best interests proved problematic. Many refused extractions because of anxiety, claims of "weakness", and the local belief that losing a tooth will damage their hearing and vision. Many also refused treatment unless they were currently in pain – despite high infection risks.

We provided a good range of dental restorations (GIC, amalgam, composite). Interestingly, where moisture-

control was impossible and aesthetics unimportant, amalgam powder was mixed with GIC to hopefully combine the strength of the amalgam with the adhesive and fluoride-releasing properties of GIC – common practice among Nepalese dentists. It was not feasible to provide root canal treatments at the clinic, so when pulpal exposures occurred and patients subsequently refused extractions, the teeth had to be restored/temporised to appease the patients, albeit risk of future problems.

Although pre-operative radiographs would have been ideal for extractions, we managed very well without and only a small proportion of extractions proved difficult (requiring bone removal). A limitation of this clinic is that the incidence of complications is unknown and we cannot follow up patients and provide treatment accordingly.

The greatest benefit of the presence of the dental clinic to Nepal locally and nationally was the boost to the national economy generated from the tourist activities and travelling of students before or after working at the clinic.

The future oral health of the villagers was an issue. Although oral hygiene instructions were given to everyone, patients need repetition and follow-up to modify their behaviours. Some oral health promotion techniques could have been taught to the village healthcare workers so that they could help prevent diseases arising in the future.



Helping out at the weekend planting rice

watching our attempts to plough their paddy fields and plant rice at the weekend!

Despite the short duration of the clinic and suboptimal operating conditions, we made the best of the facilities available and managed to address the dental health needs of 902 patients and performed 1222 clinical procedures between the 14 of us. We also gave detailed feedback to *Work the World* to improve their future projects.

Many thanks to Angela Hague and Maria Davies for their help with the project, and to Bristol Dental Alumni Association for their financial support – it was much appreciated.

Overall I found the experience of a third world country both exhilarating and overwhelming. Some areas were polluted, crowded, and dilapidated, but others were of outstanding natural beauty. I am privileged to have been able to travel to that area of the world, and proud that I was able to provide free dental treatment to people in great need of it. The villagers of Dandakharka made us feel welcome, and enjoyed



Leaving ceremony with our Nepalese supervisor

Effectiveness of medical history forms on oral surgery consultant clinics

John Murphy



During an initial consultation, a medical history is a vital process to determine important facts about a patient's general health. This may affect diagnosis and treatment, or indicate risks of future adverse medical events. I chose this as the subject of my elective as it is usually a small and straightforward part of dentistry but can have such big implications in so many ways. I thought it deserved some attention as to how things are undertaken at present.

The medical history at Bristol Dental Hospital is recorded by the clinician on a dedicated form, which allows quick reference and is easily updated. These forms can currently take a long time to complete, particularly if the patient has complex health problems, or detailed drug history. This means that a large proportion of the consultation appointment may be used to note the medical history and leaves less time to focus on the reason why the patient is attending. In addition, patients often cannot remember certain aspects of their condition or what drugs and dose they take, which makes things more difficult to build an accurate picture.

Therefore, if the patient were able to prepare the form beforehand, then, in theory, clinical time would be saved and the accuracy and depth of information could be improved. Throughout my elective I focused on this during oral surgery consultant clinics through use of a patient administered questionnaire. The plan was to recruit two cohorts of 50 patients, the first acting as control data, for which I recorded the time taken to take a medical history and any difficulties encountered. The second cohort would receive a form in the post prior to their appointment, which asked a number of questions about their health. They would then bring this with them to their appointment and the time taken for the dentist to check the form and question the patient further would be recorded. Furthermore, I tried to investigate the questionnaire side of the project in order to produce a form which was readable and presented in such a way that patients would be easily guided to the right quantity and type of information to provide. I liaised with the department of psychology to give some ideas on font, spacing and layout, which encourage concise and accurate answers. I found this part of the project to be very interesting. On reflection I realised this to be very important

when attempting to fill out various ambiguous questions on forms!

I began with the unenviable task of ethical approval in which seemingly everyone wanted to know about the project and ask endless questions! With the study approved by the university and the NHS it was time to start recruiting patients. With Mr Chris Bell as my supervisor I decided on oral surgery clinics to begin with. This allowed me to keep the number of people involved as few as possible and reduce bias, in order to get some meaningful results.

The first cohort revealed some spread in the time taken and some fairly predictable common problems. These almost invariably either related to communication problems or a complex medical history. It was found to be common that patients with complex problems often did not know the full details of medications and conditions, which then resulted in a lengthy detective process to find out. Communication difficulties were not always down to language. Medical jargon has an ability to confuse everyone, in particular drug names could result in misunderstanding or a few minutes flicking through the BNF. These issues were all targeted by the questionnaire I designed which featured a range of questions. These each had a number of parts which allowed further information to be gained if an initial positive answer was given, or to direct the patient to the next question. The medications section included a large table and suggestions to bring prescriptions to future appointments in order to keep the list up to date.

The second cohort is currently being recruited with the questionnaire and an information sheet being sent out with the appointment letter. The time taken and any common problems will then be compared with the current method at BDH. This will indicate whether this is a viable method of obtaining a medical history. It will also help guide further studies of a similar nature as this is the first at a UK dental school.

Overall, an accurate and comprehensive medical history is an essential prerequisite to diagnosis and treatment. I have partly achieved the original aims and am now continuing with the second cohort in order to make the comparison. I have learnt a lot about beginning a pilot study and perhaps bit off more than I could chew! It has been very valuable both in the administrative side and the academic aspects of the project.

I thoroughly enjoyed my elective and, although hard work, it has given me the opportunity to understand what goes on behind the scenes in research, particularly with regard to ethical approval and consent. Many thanks to the Bristol Dental Alumni Association who have supported me and the other students doing their electives, and for their continued donations to the dental school.

REUNIONS

1983 REUNION

Nigel Brown

Safe in the knowledge that only the very sad or those charged with having to write a *compte rendue* following the festivities of a dental reunion actually read these, I shall begin. No individual's experience of a reunion is the same, in many ways similar to the university experience that precedes it. For some *laboris gloria ludi* (work hard, play hard) is the sacred mantra to which they prescribe and for others it is *labor omnia vincit* (hard work conquers all). It is fair to say that at our 30th reunion on 23rd November all present were of the *laboris gloria ludi* persuasion.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Shilly Sharma (that is not to belittle the contributions of others) as he has so often been the driving force behind the reunions of the class of 83 (horrible expression and to be pedantic it should be 83/84 – I am sure I will get over re-sits in the next 5 or 10 years!). He has been that social glue that has brought everyone together over these last 30 years. Who other than Shilly could get me to write this rubbish?

All good reunions start in a bar and end with a curry! Ours was no exception. Nine of us met up at the BDH bar at the culturally significant time of 5.30pm (White Hart opening time in our day). At the back entrance of BDH, I enquired of a final year dental student about the Hathorn Bar and was sent to the Hawthorns in Clifton. Ninetree Hill seems even steeper than I remember it and on my journey I actually found the University Library which is something I never achieved in five years. Beard of Zeus, I was shocked at what students drink nowadays: JDs, Merlot, unbelievable!

My Saturday morning began with a 6-mile run to the Downs and on to the Suspension Bridge and then back to the Marriot Royal in College Green. How blessed we were to be students in such an amazing city. I am not sure whether I quite agree with George Bernard Shaw that "youth is wasted on the young"; he totally seemed to miss the point. Perhaps coming from Oldham, even at my tender age I appreciated what a unique city Bristol was and still am slightly jealous of our peers and friends who live there.

It would not be a dental reunion without the time-honoured tradition of lunch at the White Hart where we were treated to diabolically slow service which in our student days would have provoked a riot.

Thanks must go to Gordon Gray who gave up his time to show a group of slightly hung-over dentists around the ever-changing Bristol Dental School. I must admit that in 5 years I never saw a demonstration properly, could never find a pulse or find a lymph node; however, thanks to Mr Adatia I can adjust a chair properly, even to this day.

It is fair to say that there was a magnificent turn-out at the dinner. There were 31 from the year, and when added to the partners, friends and ex-members of staff there were over 60. It is always nice for us 'blokes' to dress up occasionally and don the old black tie, but it far nicer to see the ladies (nah! girls). I cannot believe that with so many beautiful women in our year I seem to have spent 5 years at or under the bar with my drinking buddie. Such a wasted opportunity – ah to be young again! The meal and service was excellent given the constraints of such an event. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors (they have all had their monies worth out of us over the years!) we even managed some wine for the table. It was great to see Ken Marshall, Reg Andlaw, Sue Hooper, Louise Foster, Dave Brown and Martin Woodhead (staff from the old days). It was good to see they were all still up for a party! Although a few hardy souls demonstrated that our dancing doesn't improve with age, most were happy to catch up with old times. I believe most of us would have stayed up all night if the Marriot would have kept a bar open. Plus ça change plus c'est la meme chose.



Back row: Mansoor Esmail, Gill Boswell, John Evans, Bob Gardener, Jenny Dakin, Jem Griffith, Paul Bennett, Abbas Tejani, Paul Beecher, Jim Toms, Pete Morgan, Dave Wood, Owen Jenkins, Nigel Brown, Vanessa Woods, Dai Jones, Karen Kendall, Ian Smillie, Shilly Sharma, Suki Edge-Partington, Nick Rankin
Front row: Munira Jivraj, Bev Reilly, Kathy Longdon, Vicky Hebditch, Sally Rankin, Jackie Williams, Sharon Gibbs, Janet Edwards, Jenny Fishley, Sarah Pearson

Of course not everyone enjoyed their time at Bristol back in those dim and distant days. Followers of the *laboris gloria ludi* sect missed out on so much. Albert Einstein, who was a very clever man, said, “education is what remains after one has forgotten everything learned in school”. Long after you have all forgotten the branches of the vagus or the ideal cavo-surface angles you will hopefully remember the experiences that you shared with your friends in Bristol.

Hopefully see you all at the next reunion.

1988 REUNION

Frin Mills

The year of '88 celebrated with a gathering at Bristol's Hotel du Vin on Friday 4th October, 2013. Through detective work on the internet and social media I had managed to track down everyone and, as there were 58 graduated in our 'bulge' year, that is no mean feat; 42 responded and 32 attended. If you missed it shame on you as you could have caught up with such stars as David Bangura, John (and Amanda) Cavanagh, Harpal (and Jasbir) Chana, Geoff and Asha Gower (Chandaria), Renu Brindle (Chibber), Annie DeSouza (and Richard Wilkinson), Poonum (and Kamal) Winayak (Dhall), David (and Anne) Emmerson, Sandip (and Deepti) Haria, John Hill (attending his first reunion), Darren (and Lynne) Hills, Ian Hughes (and Deborah Milburn), Kathryn (and Clive) Hudson (Humphreys), Farah (and Zaher) Jamal (Lalji), Penny Kenyon, Atul Mehta (who'd come all the way from Sydney (Australia), Fiona MacFarlane (Millen), Katherine (Frin) Mills (with Megan Pritchard and Gary Martin), Rajeshree Shah (Parekh), Zahida Parveen (and Brian Horton), Anil (and Sunita) Patel, Rita Patel, Ben (and Becks) Pearson, Dave Protheroe (another reunion virgin), Helen and Jimmy Marson (Rodd), Jeremy (and Rhona) Rowe, Vicky and Pete Sarsfield (Simpson), Tim (and Nathalie) Sunnucks, Sarah DeSouza (Trenfield), Janice and Jonathon Eatough (Voller), Lynne (and Peter) Waller, as well as Sarah Bain (a trainee dental nurse in our time), Reg Andlaw, Ken Marshall and Prof. Chris Stephens (somehow it seems wrong to call him anything except Prof). John Moore ('86) and some other 'old' faces were also spotted after dinner. Lee Appleton surprised all by saying he and his partner (E A Gilgun) were coming – then DNA'd.



Year of 1988 before the Dental School tour

*Back Row: Zahida Parveen, Renu Chibber, Katherine (Frin) Mills,
Sarah Trenfield, John Cavanagh, Tim Sunnucks
Front Row: Farah Lalji, Rajeshree Parekh, Fiona Millen, Rita
Patel, Harpal Chana, Annie De Souza*

Drinks and high-volume chatter were followed by an attempt to take a group photograph. Then a luscious 7-course meal with equally high-volume chatter. My daughter circulated with raffle tickets (we raised £190 for the BDA benevolent fund and BDH alumni (a signed copy of Prof's book about the BDH being the prize, fascinating stuff), Ken Marshall told jokes and Prof appealed to alumni to support the Dental School, ideally with gift-aid donations to the University, specifying that their donation is to support the Dental School. I was given some flowers and lots of thanks for organising it, people circulated... and then somehow it was midnight already and we were being ejected to the bar where there were more drinks. Some stalwarts allegedly were up until very late – or very early, depending upon your point of view. For those who stayed, the catching-up continued over breakfast.

Those of us who managed the tour of the BDH on Saturday morning marvelled at how we almost (but didn't quite) recognise the old place these days. The tour was ably guided by Ken Marshall (none the worse for wear) and recently-retired Dental Clinical Dean Gordon Gray.

As ever there were calls for reunions to take place more often – in our case it was 10 years since we'd held one because no one organised the 20th. We WILL have a 30th - but where? Atul suggested Sydney AUSTRALIA, whilst Etwyn (née Blackett who couldn't make it this time) suggested BARBADOS, so start saving now – if it ends up being in Bristol again at least we will have some money put by to enjoy (or donate to the BDH?) in 2018.

1998 REUNION

James Gabriel

The third five-yearly reunion of the Class of 1998 was held on the 30th November 2013 at The Orangery, Goldbrick House on Park Street. The location was a very suitable venue for the 27 esteemed alumni and their partners, with the food and service being first class. The expansive street-lit vista over Bristol City centre allowed a nostalgic view not dissimilar from the view from the Medical School Common room that we enjoyed nearly TWENTY years ago! A cheese roll and vending machine can be swapped for salmon and sauvignon.

Our sincere thanks to Gordon Gray who gave up his Saturday morning to guide a small but eager group around the Dental School

that has seen so much change since we all left. Whatever happened to that little room in Radiography where the films were processed? Fond memories of John Bunn, dressed in his fishing-spec body warmer and the other chap – did he have a name? You know, the chap with a jumper and white coat who darted in and out of that room...

The most surprising aspect of the evening was how little everyone had changed; conversation was as easy as it was fifteen years ago, stories exchanged and much banter was to be had by the more noisy and well lubricated in the group (Keano). The more reflective characters had lots more to reflect on, shared experiences punctuated by painful episodes: "my neck, my arm, my back" they cried. Solutions were as numerous as the problems: "my physio, my chiropractor, my pub..."

Male changes were slight, a little rounder perhaps, a little greyer or a bit thinner or even a bit thicker on top! Female changes were negligible, life seemingly treating them with the respect they deserve. Mothers and General Practitioners all, juggling the demands of a hectic life. Juggling was also on my mind as Beri repeatedly reminded me to look at her face whilst talking to her. Some things never change....

The class of 1998 would like to thank Montgomery Charles for their generous help with the reunion dinner.

2003 REUNION

Phil Hannon

The class of 2003 reunion was held on the 21st September 2013. The day started with a tour of the dental hospital, with Gordon Gray kindly coming out of retirement for an hour to provide it. Two current S year students were also on hand to answer any questions we had, enlightening us with the new (and often scary) additions to the dental curriculum.

Of note since the last reunion was the change in the dental library which has now been replaced with dozens of stand-alone PCs. I suppose you can't stop the march of progress. Brownie points to the lone student swotting up on a Saturday lunchtime. Dr Gray was certainly impressed...



Back row: James Granger, Tahrad Haq, Chris Woods, John Edward, Nilesh Patel, Ashley Payne.

Middle row: Lally Coleman, Kate Stewart, Owen Jones, Sarah Kircheimer, Anna Auchterlonie, Sam Ellis, Nikki Trundle, Francesca Haq

Front row: Phillip Hannon, Caroline Buckland, Alison Grant, Karen Beevers, Rupert Scott, Calvin Veeroo, Ruchika Saberwhal, Anna Deeks (Chris Stagles temporarily absent!)

A wonderful afternoon was then spent at Goldbrick House on Park Street, a great venue (thanks Karen!) which provided great food and drinks well into the evening and small hours.

Many thanks to everyone for making the effort to attend from far and wide. It was fantastic catching up with everyone. Roll on 5 year's time!

PS Special mention to Stagles for visiting the little boy's room during the official photo!

2008 REUNION

Manoj Tank

We left Bristol at a time when social networking was booming, so it was fitting that the organising of our first reunion was brought about via the wonders of Facebook with the added bonus of online voting systems to decide appropriate dates!

We managed to get 16 of us to meet up during the Halloween weekend, starting off by recalling old memories at Zero Degrees

before moving on to the Halloween Late Bar – with thanks to the late bar organisers for letting us in! Fancy dress code with face paint was, of course, mandatory.

We were joined by further members of the year with their young families the following day for a laid-back lunch on Park Street, giving us a better chance to catch up and share our stories. The group was delighted to learn about career progressions, marriages and even so many little children!

Thanks to the following and their families for attending throughout the weekend: Nikhil Amin, Holly Cole-Hawkins, Shiva Dunlop (Abbassi-Ghadi), Alison Jennings, Louise Madge (Long), Orianne Moxon, Mel Newberry, Lauren Papaioannou (Bedford), Anish Patel, Mili Patel (Shah), Harkaran Punni, Jemina Punni (Vekaria), Emma-Louise Rawlins (Saliba), Jonny Roberts and Tomasz Skibiński.

We look forward to the 10-year reunion, where we hope to see more members of the year – and many more children too!



Back row: Manoj Tank, Orianne Moxon, Jonny Roberts, Alison Jennings, Holly Cole-Hawkins

Front row: Louise Madge (Long), Jemina Punni (Vekaria), Shiva Dunlop, (Abbasi-Ghadi), Mill Patel (Shah), Mel Newberry, Anish Patel, Lauren Papaioannou (Bedford)

FORTHCOMING REUNIONS

At the time of going to print we have been notified that the following reunions are being organised this year.

1964	24-26 October	Dave Lewis lewis@dairy.me.uk
1968/9	3-5 October	Chris Barton chris4polly@yahoo.co.uk
1969/70	13 September	John lover johnrachellover@aol.com
1974	15 November	Shirley and Charles Scola scola@btinternet.com
1984	TBA	Andy and Lisa Sprod andy.sprod@live.co.uk
1989	15 November	Helen Chapman anything@cedarsmount.co.uk
1999	TBA	Carl Fullaway carl.fullaway@gmail.com
2004	4-6 July	Dan Beevers danbeevers@hotmail.com
2009	TBA	Matt Ellis dentalfun@gmail.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. 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, website 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.

Dental Hospital tour

A Saturday tour can be arranged by contacting Gordon Gray (gordon.gray@bristol.ac.uk) or Ken Marshall (kjmar@ymail.com)

Contacts

Dental School office tel: 0117 3424307

Reg Andlaw tel: 0117 9682653
e-mail: regandlaw@talktalk.net

Gary Mendham tel: 07796 177730
e-mail: garymendham@me.com

BDAA website www.bristoldentalalumni.co.uk

ALUMNI NEWS

*News from alumni for inclusion in our Newsletter is always welcome.
Please send to regandlaw@talktalk.net*

1970



Leslie Snape is Senior Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon at Christchurch Hospital in New Zealand and Part-time Senior Lecturer with the University of Otago School of Medicine. He is Director of Training for the specialty in New Zealand and member of the Board of Studies of the RACDS, being Chair of examiners for the Final Fellowship. He was elected President of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery for 2012 and 2013. Les continues to enjoy the lifestyle New Zealand has to offer.

1976



Raman Bedi was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Glasgow Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons last October. He had previously been appointed to the founding Chair of the World Federation of Public Health Association's Oral Health Group. He continues to run the Global Child Dental Fund which he established a few years ago. It will be remembered that he was the Chief Dental Officer for England and Wales in 2003 when he was awarded the honorary degree of DSc by the University of Bristol, the only Bristol dental graduate to have been so honoured.

1982



Stephen Fayle, Professor of Child Dental Health at the Leeds Dental Institute, was elected last year to the Board of the Faculty of Dental Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons of England.

1984

Alastair Nicoll moved to Canada shortly after graduation. In 1986 he worked in the Northern Territories and then, in 1989, moved to a practice in southern British Columbia where he still works today. He is a past president of the British Columbia Dental Association and is currently Vice-President of the Canadian Dental Association, to become President in 2015. He keeps in touch with **Martyn Thomas** in Edmonton, Alberta, and with **Alastair Speirs** in Leeds, and would like to make contact with some other classmates with a view to attending a reunion.



Friedy Luther has written a book (with co-author Z. Nelson-Moon) entitled *Orthodontic Retainers and Removable Appliances: Principles of Design and Use*. The book was published by Wiley-Blackwell and was reviewed in the *British Dental Journal* on 23 November 2013.

1989

Nikki Atack was awarded the President's Cup at the British Orthodontic Conference last year. The Cup is awarded annually by the President of the British Orthodontic Society "to the person who, in his opinion, has contributed most to the good of the Society in his year of office. Nikki has been the Director of Clinical Governance of the Society and the editor for several years of its quarterly Clinical Effectiveness bulletin.

1990

Zararna Nelson-Moon co-authored the book referred to above with Friedy Luther, and received a British Orthodontic Society distinguished service award last year.

1996



Kosmas Tolidis (MSc) was appointed Chief Dental Officer of the Hellenic Republic last December.

2001



Hem Shah, who was an SHO and then a Registrar and Senior Registrar (FTTA) in Orthodontics, all in Bristol, has been appointed a Consultant in Orthodontics in Reading. He got married last August.

DEATHS

It is with sadness that we record the death since early last year of those named below (Bristol BDS graduation year bracketed)

Sarah Nicholas (1941) – 26th February 2014

Professor Jim Fletcher (1951) – 8th January 2013

Professor Eric Bradford – 21st March 2013

Jack Ross – 15th April 2013

Ken Cowles – May 2013

Philip Jones (1962) – May 2013

Eleanor Pardon (1999) – 2013

Adam Davis (2009) – July 2013

Obituary

Sarah Lloyd Nicholas

Sarah Nicholas (née Jones) was born on January 9th 1920 in Dihewyd, Cardiganshire. In 1941 she became the first female student to gain a University of Bristol BDS degree.

Sarah's father was a Congregational minister, and the family spoke Welsh. They moved to North Devon when Sarah was 6, and she started school speaking no English. She was, however, very bright and was soon winning national essay-writing competitions. The family moved again, to Market Lavington in Wiltshire where Sarah attended Devizes Secondary School. At the age of only 16 she started at Bristol University Dental School, living in Clifton Hill House. She was the only woman in her year and the first to graduate with a degree; before that, women students had only taken the LDS diploma. Her future husband Peter was a fellow student, and they married in 1945.

Sarah spent the war years as the School Dental Officer for Bath, and in 1947 started her own practice at Kings Road, Brislington. It was opened during one of the worst winters on record and business was slow, but she soon gained a reputation for excellent dentistry, and patients came in numbers. The surgery still exists, with some patients being the 4th generation of the first

Sadly, Sarah was widowed in 1969, but she remained working at Kings Road until she was 60, when she sold the business. However, she continued as an associate one day a week to help a friend in Redland. She eventually retired in 1986, after 50 years in dentistry.

She spent her retirement travelling the world and tending her garden. She was still living independently and driving her car in her 90th year. In 2011 she moved to a home in Hitchin, and died peacefully in her sleep on 26th February 2014, aged 94. She leaves a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.

