

'66Soc  
**50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**  
Saturday 3rd December 2016

**THE MERCURE BRISTOL BRIGSTOW HOTEL**



Members of the '66 Society and guests

**1966 REUNION, 3<sup>RD</sup> December 2016**

Bob Binnersley

Members of the 1966 year celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their graduation with guests at the Mercure Brigstow Hotel on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016. Dinner was preceded by a reception of canapes and bubbly, kindly sponsored by the Bristol Dental Alumni Association.

Thirty one members and guests had travelled from afar: Richmond (Virginia, USA), London, Torquay, Ludlow and even as far as Park Street, Bristol. Much reminiscing was done with the usual lubrication to enhance the flow of conversation. Members were delighted that Joy Baker, retired dental nurse from the Dental Hospital, travelled from the North Midlands to meet them. She had to leave Dave, her husband, at home as he suffered a stroke last year and would have found the journey difficult. We wish him all the best.

A slide show was shown throughout the evening containing members' photographs of student days and of various reunion events through the years. The 66 Society has met every year at Christmas time since qualifying – for the first ten years meetings twice a year, in summer and winter – which reflects the strong bond between its members.

Reg Andlaw, retired Senior Lecturer in Child Dental Health and Chairman of the Bristol Dental Alumni Association congratulated the 'year' on their 50<sup>th</sup> graduation anniversary and their 50 consecutive reunion years. He recalled having attended reunions of the Society since the early days at the Fosters Rooms, and gave a short summary of the good works of the BDAA, emphasising that none would be possible without the funds provided by members' subscriptions. He then proposed the toast: 'the 66 Society'. The response was given by Mike Goldring, retired auto-gyro pilot and dental practitioner. Mike explained his tortuous route to becoming a dental student, involving starting to train as an RAF fighter pilot to working as a sludge gatherer in a sewage works. He discovered that he had a form of colour-blindness that did not allow him to pursue either occupation.

It was decided unanimously to hold a 50+1 reunion next year. This has already been arranged for Saturday 2nd December, at the same venue as this year: the Mercure Brigstow Hotel. Any 1966 students who have lost touch, or others associated with our year, are welcome to send their contact details to be entered onto the reunion list. Please send these to Bob Binnersley, [bobwbin@aol.com](mailto:bobwbin@aol.com)