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The BDAA is pleased to acknowledge the financial support of the Medical Sickness Society in producing this Newsletter.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The figures on page 24 show how we used our funds during the last year. We would, of course, like to spread our money more widely, and this will become increasingly possible as we continue to enlarge our membership, principally by targeting each year's graduates. However, despite our best efforts, we have still not managed to enrol *all* the graduating students in any one year. In my 'piece' last year I said that we would "dangle a carrot" in a further ruse to ensnare the 1996 graduates. The carrot was eligibility for one of the £50 prizes to be drawn at the Final Year Dinner - only those who signed up as members were to be eligible. This helped Alison Brokenshire (the final year rep on our Committee last year) to enlist the majority of her colleagues, but some still managed to slip through the net. We'll see what Andrew Bain's persuasive powers can achieve this year.

Also in my 'piece' last year I mentioned the difficulty the Dental School Library has in meeting ever-increasing costs within a severely restricted University budget, and I suggested that some of you might like to make individual donations to add to the one we make as an Association. It is rather sad to report that not a single response was received. I cannot believe that there are no Bristol alumni out there willing to support the library in this way so I will be bold and raise the matter again. Donations, however small, would be most gratefully received and, as stated last year, would be officially acknowledged by placing a plaque bearing the donor's name inside the front cover of a newly purchased book. I hope this reminder will generate a few responses. Cheques should be made payable to University of Bristol (Dental School Library) and sent to me c/o the Clinical Dean's Office.

We have again supported student elective projects, and accounts of visits to France, South Africa and the USA are included in this Newsletter. We have also given some support to two alumni taking part in the BT Global Challenge, the world's toughest yacht race: Ben Pearson ('88) and Ciara Scott ('96), both on Toshiba Wave Warrior. They expect to be back in Southampton in July and we hope to have reports of their experiences for next year's newsletter.

Once again my pleas for snippets of news to include in our Alumni News section generated little response (except, again, from Ian Grant, and from just a few others, to whom we are grateful), so we have had to scratch around in Bristol for most of the items that appear in this issue. It seems most of you want to keep a very low profile, but if you can be persuaded to come out into the open a tear-off slip is again available on the centre page.

Best wishes to you all.

THE DENTAL SCHOOL YEAR

Ken Marshall, Dental Clinical Dean

It was Somerset Maugham who wrote "money is like a sixth sense without which you cannot make a complete use of the other five", and there is no doubt at all that this is nowhere more true than in the current universities' struggle with the market economy philosophy. All that we see, hear, smell, taste and touch in the perpetual search for quality and efficiency is governed by financial constraint, and external sources of funding have fast become the yardstick not simply of personal achievement but of survival.

What a serious note on which to begin an annual report! - but it does give me a framework around which to structure what I have to say and an appropriate introduction to one of the year's happier events, so let's start with the sense of smell. It's not often that you get the sniff of £1,000,000 unless you get a part share in the lottery, but Neil Meredith (the Consultant Senior Lecturer in Conservative Dentistry for those of you who haven't read your previous issues!) has just had such an experience. Neil was given a year's leave of absence to go to Sweden as a Research Fellow and his work in the non-destructive testing of implants has resulted in the award of a Biomed 4 grant which represents 90% of the total funding available (2M ECU) for 1997-8 in this award scheme, the bulk of which will come to Bristol. It is quite a thought to contemplate where we might be without such "windfalls" and if you couple it to the similarly large amount of external funding brought in on a regular basis by Martin Addy for the Clinical Trials Unit it helps you to understand why Bristol Dental School is still relatively flourishing despite the generally depressing national picture.

What you will see (in my continued trip around the senses) when you come to visit us is a continuing internal development. The move to refurbish the old Prosthetics Clinic suffered a hitch last year and will now take place this summer. This will see the realisation of a long-awaited drawing together of all aspects of the routine care of adult dentulous patients in one clinical area and will give the students the opportunity to come closer in their training to the reality of general dental practice. Upgrades of the General Anaesthetic Suite and the Radiography Department have, consequently, been put on hold for a year or so.

The main thing which touches on all of us, current students, staff and alumni, is the continual movement of personnel in and out of the building. It is always said that the character of a building reflects the personalities of those who inhabit it and it is interesting to conjecture just how this applies to those who have left during the year, and how the acquisition of replacement staff will continue to have an influence. Word usually travels fast and wide, and what you hear is what actually touches us when it comes to staff movement. In his stay in

Bristol Dick Elderton confirmed his status as a national and international figure and it is the paradox of the man that the two reputations were somewhat different. He has undoubtedly left his mark with us, and our profile to the outside world will be considerably altered by his going. Several of our elder statesmen have also left us during the year, notably Ken Roberts, Peter Keeton and Phil Jones from the Adult Clinics and Graham Biddlecombe from the Teaching Laboratory. Each one of these will be fondly remembered by many generations of stress-controlled, ethical practice managers with a high degree of skill in the clinical and laboratory procedures of making dentures. We also said farewell to Cathy Meredith, our Hospital General Manager, who very capably saw us through the difficult gestation of becoming part of the new United Bristol Hospitals Trust. William Wade, who was with us from Cardiff for a few years, has moved on to Guy's, but not before establishing a flourishing microbiology department which will continue to develop, and we have also lost Terry Foad, our Dental Laboratory Superintendent, and Graham Phillips and Terry Warren, erstwhile instructors whom many alumni will remember, who rejoined us after the assimilation of the Central Health Clinic.

The one sad note that I have to add to the list of departures is the passing of Professor Bradford's wife Norah at the end of last year. Many former students, and particularly those who were involved in the Hannover exchange, will remember Norah as a generous and enthusiastic hostess who took a great interest in the Dental School's affairs. Our thoughts go to Eric at this difficult and sad time.

You will no doubt be aware that the loss of staff is rarely a one-sided affair and I can now report on the credit side of the balance. We have now had Jonathan Cowpe in post as Professor of Oral and Maxillo-facial Surgery for the best part of a year and his impact as a teacher is already being felt. Klaus Jandt, who has a special interest in composite materials and ultra-high-power microscopy, is already making his impact as a Senior Lecturer in Dental Materials and we have appointed Howard Jenkinson from New Zealand to what will become the Chair of Microbiology in replacement of William Wade. Our new Hospital General Manager is Mary-Anne Cooke who has come to us from the Division of Surgery, and Bob Benjamin, a Lecturer in Dental Technology from Sheffield, has replaced Graham Biddlecombe as one of our team of instructors. The general practitioner strength has been re-established with the appointment of Andrew Hall (a former lecturer) and John Lover and Charlie Stephanakis (former students). All this in a year which has also seen Tim Amess and Dominic O'Sullivan return to the fold as locum lecturers in Restorative Dentistry.

But the taste of things to come has been going through the throws of the General Dental Council Visitation and the Research Assessment Exercise. Both of these have been "passed" with commendation and we have managed to raise ourselves to one of the higher gradings on our research activity. Only time for one quick deep breath, however, and we are now facing up to the major exercise of a Teaching Quality Assessment sometime between 1998 and 2000. Plenty of time, you may think, until you realise that the assessment takes a retrospective look over the last five years and so we must be working hard now to put all the correct mechanisms in place. It's a great life being a University member of staff these days! We're looking forward to the next government introducing the 36 hour day!

Still, life does have its brighter side and we haven't yet had to resort to our computer staff being allocated time and funds to beat the lottery. We're still here and still pleased to see any of you who want to drop by, so don't forget to look us up when you're in town.

A REVIEW OF THE STUDENT YEAR 1996-1997

Jim Gabriel, President UBDSS

When I first assumed the task of taming the beast which is the UBDSS, I was confronted with masses of paperwork. To this day the pile (all 3 feet of it) remains, like most 3-foot piles of paperwork (health & safety regulations, pathology notes etc) unread. In fact, one could even argue it constitutes a fire hazard. Roll on November 5th. I had also had the task of following my distinguished predecessor Andrew Bain, whose magnetism radiates far beyond Bristol. Even in South Yorkshire one can still feel the pull. I was in a bar in Sheffield when I met two rather lovely ladies. After realising who I was they appeared visibly disturbed that I was not as aesthetically blessed as my predecessor. It was at this point that I decided a white tuxedo, Aston Martin and bottle of Moutin Rouge '57 was needed to realise the bird-pulling potential the position requires.

November saw us invited to the Northern Dental Schools' Sports Day in Sheffield. Actually, it was the audacity of our sports rep, Chris Gollings, who saw us invited to the illustrious City of Steel. We were to do battle in the ancient and respected field of mixed netball, women's 5-a-side, as well as football and rugby. Uncle Ken gave us the day off but, alas, fixed appliance commitments left our football team unstuck up front, as Steve Keane and Jag Dhanda were left on the clinic. The BDH battle bus left at 8 o'clock and good time was made as we found ourselves in suburban Solihull's Safeway at 9.15. Noon came and under Biermeister Hamiltons' leadership, Bristol's elite found themselves suitably

anaesthetised to the northern ridicule we encountered. We collectively faced the onslaught from Sheffield, and then Birmingham. Insult was added to injury as we lost and lost again. I blame the lack of altitude training. We didn't even get to play mighty Liverpool (who were taking things a bit too seriously) - their efficiency and commitment would have made a Japanese administrator green with envy. All the other sports were equally as (un)successful, and, to be honest, we were robbed. The humiliation of four wooden spoons still lingers. We were down but not out. Remembering our proud maritime history we threw down the gauntlet and challenged all comers to a boat race. Need I say more, the guts and determination and, dare I say, practice put in by our number secured Bristol's reputation at the pinnacle of right arm achievements. New friendships were forged and, I'm pleased to report, no imminent births nor any arrests. As a result of these friendships Birmingham recently came down for a big night out (absolutely no pretence at sport whatever!) I was even surprised to hear that Martin Smith and I are not the only dental students in Britain to be blessed with a regional accent.

On the academic front, after-hours lectures have never been so popular. The Chapter House Lecture Theatre positively bulges with eager students. Eager, that is, for the free beer and pizza supplied by the benevolent insurance companies. I am considering investigating the effects on lecture attendance of supplying beer and pizza or cheese and wine for my elective study.

January saw the (1996?) revue when the thespian was brought out in everyone. Closet actors were exposed and I'm sure a glittering Hollywood role awaits our very own agent Mulder, Brad Hall, who did well to appease the baying and rowdy crowd. Unfortunately, a certain Welsh prosthetics lecturer kept up tradition and certainly could not be appeased. It was either that or he was staging his own Eisteddfod. Mr Chris Bell said after the 3-hour epic: "It was the best I've seen in 10 years". Whether he was referring to the performance or to Scott Deakins' choice in women's panties still remains a mystery.

Brad and Stuart Goddard brought their own brand of capitalism to the bar this year. Burgeoning profits have led to a planned refit. All of this and no price increase (yet!). The bar is as popular as ever, parties being well attended. Ben Atwell works very hard organising all our entertainments as well as interview lunches in aid of the Hannover exchange.

1996 saw the departure of both Mr Ken Roberts and Prof Elderton to pastures new. It gave me great pleasure to present Prof Elderton with the largest leaving present, on behalf of the UBDSS. Never let it be said that size doesn't matter. The UBDSS keeps on growing and so does the mountain of paperwork in my bedroom!

STUDENT ELECTIVES SUPPORTED BY BDAA

NEW YORK AND BEYOND!

Christian Day and Peter Day

People are always asking "why do you want to be a dentist?" This summer we found the answer - **ELECTIVES!**

So where would you go? Let us see ... long haul, excitement, high temperatures, 'modern' dentistry, beaches, reasonable prices (well we are students!) and English speaking. The criteria were listed and the decision made; we would do the actual elective project at New York University College of Dentistry (NYUCD) and then do some travelling. Due to the timings of our elective period and the NYUCD summer vacation we were sadly put in the position that to have enough time to complete our 'research' we would have to take one week off clinic. So with great hesitancy we thoughtokay!

We arrived at JFK airport on a hot, muggy, Sunday afternoon. First step, find the hostel. To the relief of our mothers, we resisted the cheapest hostel in the guide book, on Malcolm X Street, yes Harlem! The guide book called it "lively". Really! We opted for a hostel off 8th avenue, opposite the police station, in the Chelsea district, adjacent to Greenwich village.

On the Monday we walked to NYUCD to be met by Professor S Moss. This gentleman is the Professor Elderton of NY with his fore-thinking of the future direction of dentistry. Professor Moss guided us on a whirlwind tour of the hospital whilst having an informal chat about what we wished to achieve in NY; indeed within the first 5 minutes he had told us to make sure we did not work too hard and to enjoy the city. Cool!

We soon met our supervisor, Professor Jill Fernandez, who was in charge of the NYUCD Community Outreach and related programmes. These programmes are based around the prevention of oral disease. As a compulsory part of their curricula, students attending NYUCD are taken out into community schools "Head Start" and day care centres to talk to children, teachers, care workers and other health professionals on matters of oral health. The aim is to educate members of the community and give the students confidence when talking to these individuals whom they may one day serve. This is linked with the realisation that other professionals see these young children on a far more regular basis than a dentist, and therefore are best placed to give a continual dental health message.

Our time spent in NYUCD was excellent; we were introduced and made to feel welcome by many members of staff and students. Much of our time was spent talking to Jill or fellow members of staff about the community programmes and the other work that is undertaken by the paediatric department. Although it was the summer vacation we did manage to visit an Outreach programme in Harlem. The community centre concerned was very interesting, being surrounded by barbed wire and high-rise blocks. To our amazement we experienced American paranoia to the extreme when the senior member of staff at the community centre refused to allow the taking of photos of children asleep during a siesta period because parents' permission had not been granted!

Dentistry in the US differs a great deal from that in the UK. NYUCD had in excess of 180 students per student year. These are divided into a day and an afternoon/evening group. With the university in effect running two separate dental courses it means the first lecture for the day group is at 8am, and the university closes at 8pm for the second group of students. All students have already done a college degree of 4 years before starting at NYUCD. One of the major differences between the education in Bristol and NYUCD is the tuition fees. For a year at NYUCD the fees are \$30,000 per student, before having to purchase all their own dental equipment and adding living costs. With a single apartment costing around \$1,000 a month in Manhattan, it is not surprising that most students have evening jobs and are in debt by the end of their course to the tune of \$200,000. The potential earning of an American dentist have been well documented, but with debts of this nature from the day they qualify it is not a surprise that most dentists feel the need to work 6 days a week, well into their early 40s, in order to pay off these debts.

Our experience of New York was of an awesome city which never appears to sleep. During our stay we tried to see as much of Manhattan as was possible. This included culture, when we had the chance to listen to live jazz, a concert in Central Park performed by the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, and an evening at the Broadway Theatre watching the musical Miss Saigon, all of which was fantastic. On the entertainment side we decided to join the natives and purchased roller blades. This was our chance to frighten some of the yellow cab drivers as we whizzed (well wobbled) down 8th Avenue.

Following the excitement of New York we had our chance to do some travelling. The highlights included rollerblading in Toronto, San Fransisco and San Diego. Please note, any reader who wishes to visit San Francisco on rollerblades make sure the brakes work I can assure you the hills are steep and the concrete hard! More near-death experiences came in Colorado where

we had the chance to take mountain bikes on a ski lift to the top of a mountain and then cycle down again. This time Peter met the earth, the trees, the stream!

The pinnacle of the elective came when we did a 3-week tour of central and southern Mexico. One guide said "Mexico is the forgotten jewel of the world"; this is just so correct. The people are, on the surface, very happy but the culture shock came when you see their poverty - it is devastating. Mexico has a fascinating history, some beautiful scenery and has a coastline which includes the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean. Historically we visited many Mayan pyramids and temples, these being open to genuinely walk around and investigate, unlike being restricted by ropes and officials as would happen in the States or UK. On the leisure front we snorkelled a live reef, sat on swings or in hammocks at a bar, dived off waterfalls and tried our hand at surfing.

Thank you very much to the Alumni for their kind and generous donation.

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Nad Veerasamy

After having spent a month on the paradise island of Mauritius I found it rather difficult to leave. My parents had been looking after me and every day I was either at the beach or with friends. Soon it was time to leave. It was lucky that a lot of people were travelling to France that night, because I was moved to Business Class. Champagne was served at will and the food was delicious. I believe that one needs to be treated well when the flight is 12 hours long.

At Charles de Gaulle Airport I was picked up by a Mauritian friend who came to meet his brother and we were all going to Lille. My accommodation had already been arranged by my brother who is actually studying medicine at Lille University. He was still having fun in Mauritius as the term had not yet started for him. We arrived at the hall of residence and my first impression was 'Hiatt Baker'. The room was a typical small student room with a washbasin. The hall was mainly occupied by medical and dental students, as the hospital complexes were within 100 metres - I was rather pleased that the dental hospital was less than 5 minutes walk away.

Lille is well known to have one of the most sophisticated tube systems in the world. The carriages do not have a driver, and at the station there is a security double door just before entering the wagons - this prevents people from jumping onto the tracks. Well, I was impressed, as one could go from one area to the other rather quickly.

Most of the hospital buildings have huge impressive entrances. The dental school was one of them. The doors were big and gave into a huge central hall. There was a big board onto which the names of the professors and the heads of the departments were written. I introduced myself to my host who was Professor Libersa, head of the Clinical Department of the dental hospital. I was then introduced to the people on the various departments through which I would rotate during my stay. I would also spend some time at the Oral Medicine and Maxillofacial Department at the main hospital, where I would be doing my project.

The French dental system is rather different from the British. The Oral Medicine and Maxillofacial departments are separate from the dental hospital. Dental students in France do not learn any oral medicine - or very little of it. This is a specialty that a qualified dentist decides to take as a postgraduate diploma. Then the dentist can call himself a "stomatologue" and can practise as a specialist. Maxillofacial surgery is a specialty that is taken after doing medicine.

My project was to determine if there is a relationship between oral lichen planus and chronic liver disease, specifically chronic active hepatitis and primary biliary cirrhosis. An association between liver disease, due to hepatitis infection, and lichen planus was observed in a retrospective study of an Italian population. Comparing a French population of patients with lichen planus with that of another 'European Union' population was what I was about to do. Some of the patients had to be summoned so that I could ask them some questions and examine them. I learnt a great deal about the treatment of different lesions.

One treatment that was out of the ordinary was the use of carbon dioxide lasers in the treatment of oral lichen planus and leukoplakia. Frenectomy during orthodontic closure of median diastema was also performed using the carbon dioxide laser.

In the dental school, conservative and prosthetic treatments were of similar kind to these in the Bristol dental school. The administrative system is rather different since in France there is no similar thing to the NHS. The patient needs to contribute to part or to the whole treatment, depending on how complex it is. The other part is contributed by the patients' insurance. Orthodontics is taught both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and the person who is in charge of the department became a good friend as he had been on holiday to Mauritius a few times. Their orthodontics is very much influenced by the 'American style'.

TMJ dysfunction is very prominent amongst the French population - there was a postgraduate course and a whole clinic dedicated to that field.

Lille is a city busy with students. There are lots of places to eat and the cafés are very popular. Lille is known by the French to be a place where beer is mostly consumed rather than wine. This is because each restaurant or 'brasserie' brews its own kinds of beer and these are served in half-gallon jugs. Bars are open till 2am and some until 5am.

On the first weekend of September, Lille has a 'Braderie'. This is a huge fancy fair involving the whole of the city. I was amazed to see how involved the people were. Stalls are set up in the streets and all kinds of things are sold, from antique furniture to old tapes. All the shops go on sale and there are street concerts. I do really advise anybody to spend the weekend in Lille when the 'Braderie' is on.

Since Lille is on the border with Belgium, some friends and I decided to spend a long weekend in Brussels which was only 1½ hours away. The strange thing is that French is barely spoken in Brussels. The two main languages are Flemish and English. The centre of old Brussels is very nice and the buildings around the 'grande place' are particularly medieval. Of course I had to see the 'atomium' and the 'miniature Europe'. One famous dish that one needs to try in Belgium is 'mussels with French fries' and a nice pint of Belgian lager - lovely juby. There were a few Irish pubs around the city selling not only Guinness but also Kilkeny and Caffreys.

Soon the elective period was coming to an end and I had the choice between 6 hours of coach or 1 hour of the swift Eurostar. Since I had never travelled with Eurostar, that was an opportunity to do so. "Just amazing" - that is what I can say about it, until it reached the south-east British Rail network!!

I would like to thank the Bristol Dental Alumni for having kindly supported my elective study period.

CAPE TOWN AND SOUTH AFRICAN TRAVELS

Andrew Bain and Andrew Walker

South Africa was the venue for our elective which proved to be hugely enjoyable, combining academic work with holiday. We decided to use the summer holiday as well as the allotted month, enabling us to spend 7 weeks abroad. Our original intention was to visit all 5 dental schools in South Africa and collect data on oral cancer from all of them. However we soon realised this was far too ambitious so we set about choosing our destination. Of all the dental schools we decided to visit the University of the Western Cape, just outside

Cape Town. Not only did this school sound the most organised but the allure of Cape Town also played a part in our decision. After correspondence with the head of the Oral Pathology Department we had essentially decided on the protocol for our project. We wanted to review all the cases of intra-oral squamous cell carcinoma treated in Cape Town over the last 10 years; all the tumour factors, treatment, recurrence and survival were to be reported.

We arrived in Cape Town full of excitement and enthusiasm. For the first few nights we stayed in a youth hostel in the city centre acclimatising ourselves. We visited the main sites of Cape Town and the surrounding peninsula; these included the Waterfront, the spectacular Table Mountain and the Cape of Good Hope (reckoned to be the most treacherous shipping area in the world). We first went to the hospital after 4 days in South Africa. For the whole time we never actually went to the Dental School at the university. All the notes we required were kept in the Groote Schuur Hospital on the outskirts of Cape Town. We therefore set up camp in the Radiotherapy Department under the supervision of Dr Stannard, a consultant in this department. Groote Schuur Hospital is a huge, sprawling hospital famous for Christian Barnard's pioneering heart transplant surgery. From the notes in this department we could extract all the details of the presenting tumours, the details of the treatment received (not just the radiotherapy) and the follow-up of the patient. We quickly modified our existing data sheet and began wading through huge piles of notes. We ignored patients treated palliatively, recurrences and those where the follow-up was non-existent.

Three weeks were spent at the hospital poring over the notes and plugging the data into a computer. We were given a lap-top computer and Microsoft Access software on which we created a suitable database. This fulfilled the dual role of reference for the hospital and it allowed us to be able to store our data in a convenient and accessible fashion. All in all 519 patients were included in the study which provided us with plenty of information with which to construct a decent project. Once all the data were collected and stored on disk we left Cape Town, having said our good-byes to our supervisors.

We had the fortune to meet an affable Dutchman who was keen to travel before returning to Holland and also had a car that we could all drive. So the three of us set off on a huge road trip which was to take 3 weeks, enabling us to catch our return flight home in time for a return to Bristol. We first travelled along the south coast of South Africa along the Garden Route, a popular and beautiful stretch of coast. We then went through what was Transkei, an old homeland, and saw the scars left by the shocking system of Apartheid. Durban was our next main port of call and provided a welcome rest after a few days of hard driving. From Durban we headed north through Swaziland, the smallest

country in the southern hemisphere and a beautiful one at that. The Kruger National Park was next and we spent 3 days in a campsite; the days were spent driving around animal spotting in a park the size of Wales! The evenings were spent 'braising/(BBQing) and listening to the calls of the animals. We saw plenty of wildlife, the highlights being elephants, rhino, hyenas and hippos. From Kruger Park we headed up to the Zimbabwe border and then headed west towards Bulawayo. We sped through this area of Zimbabwe driving 10 or 12 hours a day as our time was ebbing away and we wanted to stay a few days at the Victoria Falls. We reached the falls and were not disappointed by them. Despite the low water levels they were one of the most spectacular sites we had ever seen. The sun was blazing and we walked all around the falls, crossing the border into Zambia and even swimming about 20 yards from where the water tumbles over the edge. The next day we succumbed to the pushy salesmen for white water rafting and spent a whole day descending the rapids of the Zambezi (the biggest in the world) in what was essentially a glorified rubber dinghy. It proved to be a thrilling day and worth the considerable price we had paid. After Victoria Falls we turned south and soon reached the Botswana border where we further embellished our already clogged-up passports with stamps. We only drove on one road all the way through Botswana, stopping occasionally for a crossing elephant. On each side of the road was a huge expanse of game reserve, including the Kalahari, which is allegedly the best in the world for viewing game. From Botswana it was back into South Africa and we were on the long home straight back to Cape Town. We stopped off in Kimberley to visit the hole left by the diamond mine which made Cecil Rhodes a rich man, before pressing on to Cape Town. Once in Cape Town we spent 2 days back in our hostel before the depressing day of departure.

Once back in England we were soon back down to earth. We returned to Bristol, began to work on the data and set about writing up the project. We have now finished the project with some help on complex statistics and are pleased with the finished result. We would both like to thank the Alumni Association for their kind donation to our funds, helping us to undertake what proved to be the trip of a lifetime.

CONSULTANTS AT BRISTOL DENTAL HOSPITAL

The list below is provided in response to requests from local practitioners who would like to know the names of current consultants when referring patients to BDH.

Consultant	Secretary*	Specialty
Prof. M Addy, PhD MSc FDSRCS BDS	928 4506	Periodontology
Prof. J G Cowpe, BDS FDS RCS, PhD	928 4500	Oral & maxillofacial surgery
Mr P Crawford, MSc FDSRCS(Ed)	928 4338	Paediatric dentistry
Dr J Eveson, FDSRCPS MRCPath PhD	928 4311	Oral medicine and pathology
Dr M J Griffiths FDSRCS	928 4391	Oral medicine, oral surgery, dental care for special needs patients
Dr P Guest, MB CHB BDS FDSRCS FRCS	928 4388/928 4500	Maxillofacial surgery
Mr N Harradine, MSc FDSRCS MOrth RCS	928 4434	Orthodontics
Prof. A Harrison, FDSRCS PhD	928 4391	Prosthetics
Mr I S Hathorn, FDS DOrth	928 4350	Orthodontics
Mr P King, BDS FDSRCS MSc	928 4392	Restorative dentistry
Dr N Meredith, MFC FDSRCS PhD	928 4384	Restorative dentistry.
Dr J Moran, PhD MScD FDSRCS MDS	928 4347	Periodontology
Prof. S Prime, PhD FDSRCS MRCPath	928 4391	Oral medicine and pathology
Dr J R Sandy, MSc PhD DOrth FDS(Eng) FDS(Edin)	928 4356	Orthodontics
Mr R G Smith, MDS FDSRCS	928 4312	Periodontology
Prof. C D Stephens, FDS MOrth RCS	928 4350	Orthodontics
Mr C M Woodhead, MSc FDSRCS	928 4389	Prosthetics

* All telephone numbers Bristol STD code (0117).

Referrals may be to a specific consultant, or they may be open, in which case they will be given to the consultant with the shortest waiting time on the day of arrival. Please include full details of medical history, including all medication and any relevant dental history and previous treatment. New appointments are made strictly on the basis of urgency - each new letter is ranked and booked 'urgent', 'soon' or 'routine'. The aim is to ensure that no patient with an urgent condition will wait longer than one month for an appointment.

ALUMNI REUNIONS 1996-1997

1966 REUNION, DECEMBER 1996

It is unlikely that any dental reunion society has such a long and unbroken record of regular meetings as the Bristol 66 Society. The number of students per clinical year up to the mid-sixties rarely exceeded 20, with the result that every student knew each other well, and there was a tendency to socialise "mob-handed". Those qualifying around 1966, maybe more than most years, developed quite a corporate spirit during the undergraduate course and, quite remarkably, this spirit seems to have transcended the passing of 31 years.

Meeting have been held on the first Saturday in December at the Foster's Rooms in Bristol without a break since the original 1966 Final Year Dinner. A short clinical input for tax purposes has been invariably followed by a table demonstration, which has demonstrated largely the indifference of the catering, with conversation that has ranged over many subjects down the years - maximising earnings under the NHS, enlarging one's private sector, how I got our of dentistry, spotting building societies about to float, effective pension planning etc. Among notable papers presented have been "The use of the back pocket in periodontal surgery" and "The Class 4 gold inlay and its relation to the provision of corporate personal equity plans".

A special 25th reunion was held in 1991 with Professor Graham Charlton as our guest, where a remarkable gathering of people who had been working or studying at the Dental Hospital in a variety of capacities during the sixties was assembled on a world-wide basis over a whole weekend, and many old friendships were renewed. A reunion was held last December with Dr Bill Hunt teaching more pathology to those assembled in his after-dinner speech than he did in 2 years of undergraduate lectures.

Anyone who is interested in coming along or getting news of those around in Bristol in the mid-sixties please contact either Judy King (née Pearce) on 01454 618614 or John Rees on 0117 706422.

John Lucia

1971 REUNION, MARCH 1997

A strongly emotional mixture of curiosity and remembered relationships - this does not, at first, seem sufficiently strong to draw together so many from all points of the compass, but Abu Dhabi, Australia, Barbados, Norway, Singapore, South Africa and USA all contributed to produce a highly creditable 34 out of a potential of 42 who graduated in 1971.

At first falteringly, but with increasing confidence and pleasure, friendships were renewed. A busy schedule of golf, international rugby plus a splendid hotel had been thoughtfully arranged, with an injection of sobriety being provided by two authoritative and illuminating presentations from Bernie Speculand and Rex Holland. It was from the latter that we were privileged to learn the real reason for Neil Armstrong's moon walk!

The high point of our gathering was formal dinner, Saturday evening. Again, a careful balance had been engineered, formality being tempered with hilarity in the form of nominations for an Oscar-style ceremony, the categories being fatness, baldness, greyness etc, etc. Could this have been the real *raison d'etre* for our reunion? Clive Fickling endeared himself to all by accepting nomination to every possible category.

Representation from the University was splendidly provided by Reg Andlaw on cornet and Ken Marshall on after-dinner witticisms.

The progenitor and paragon of all things good at this time was David Brooker. We are deeply indebted to David and Anne and all his family, for the huge amount of time and effort and expense that clearly was needed to make our weekend such a success.

A reunion (and indeed this report) can be of little interest to those outside but contrasts dramatically with the experiences of those fortunate to attend. We are gently reminded of, and it serves tribute to, the bonds formed in the trials and tribulations jointly experienced all those many years ago.

So, for any other year considering such a venture, be reassured, a great experience awaits you.

Bernard Aslett



1990 REUNION, OCTOBER 1996

On Friday 11th October 1996 the reunion weekend got off to a great start with the enticement of cheap beer and a decent curry. Travellers came from Lands End to John O'Groats (well, Dick came from Glasgow and Mark from Southampton!).

The dental bar had a familiar air about it, friendly staff jostling for their position at the bar, and how pleasing it was to see that time had been kind to most of them. Yes, and then there were the dental nurses, too young to drink alcohol, sat quietly in the corner drinking lemonade, whilst the gentlemen queued up quietly and in perfect order for their turn at the pool table. Yes, this really was the dental bar as we remembered it!

Refreshed, we were able to proceed around the dental hospital and the new Chapter House facilities in awe of its splendour. Sue Hooper was on great form and showed great wit and presence of mind to keep us in order whilst we laughed and joked our way around the facilities. For that we must thank her most sincerely and Ken Marshall for his time and effort in helping to coordinate this.

From the Dental Hospital we moved on to a Mexican restaurant, La Quintoss, which we left in perfect order, as you would imagine!

On Saturday 12th October 1996 the year group as a whole, with only a few exceptions, met at the Redwood Lodge County Club, Clifton Suite, where a harpist welcomed us into the room and a three-course meal was served. It was reassuring to see the turnout was so high, and it would appear that everybody who attended had a great time. The Clifton Suite proved to be a good facility, just about the right size for the numbers that attended. The staff were kind and courteous and the food arrived promptly and was eaten with relish by most of the gentlemen; however, it was noted by some of the ladies that there was rather too much piled on the plate!

Hope to see you all for the 10-year reunion in 3½ years time!

Simon Uren

1991 REUNION, NOVEMBER 1996

We have been informed that a successful reunion was held on November 3rd 1996 at the Swallow Royal Hotel. Unfortunately we have been unable to obtain a report for publication in this Newsletter.

ALUMNI NEWS**1951**

Jim Fletcher retired in 1990 (with titles of Emeritus Professor and Emeritus Consultant, University of Liverpool) but still teaches Basic Life Support (BLS) to hospital staff and students, and also via the 'In practice Life Support Training Scheme for the Dental Team' which is organised by his wife Judy. During the last couple of years he has attended meetings of the IADR in Singapore and of the European Resuscitation Council in Seville, helping with BLS demonstrations.

1977

Alasdair Miller practises in Taunton but also is the South West Regional Adviser in General Dental practice.

1978

Jonathan Hicks' life has improved beyond recognition since he quit dentistry. He now earns his crust as an airline pilot which he finds much less stressful. He lives in the Isle of Man and in central France. He is married and has a 7-year-old child.

1980

Bill Smith and **Jon Hayter** are consultant oral and maxillofacial surgeons, Bill in Northampton/Kettering and Jon in Leicester.

1981

Clive Marks sailed a leg of the Ocean Youth Club's World Voyage last year from Sydney to Darwin as second mate in a novice crew whose average age was 17½. Conditions during the first 10 days were total purgatory but improved inside the Barrier Reef, where he enjoyed scuba diving and watching orcas (killer whales) swimming alongside the boat.

1982

Alison Williams is working in Bristol coordinating the south of England part of a Department of Health study into the outcome of treatment of patients with cleft lip and palate. **Karen Drage** was appointed a consultant orthodontist in Plymouth in February 1996. **Diana Collard** is a sucker for punishment. In addition to her onerous duties as secretary of our Association she is Treasurer of the South West Branch of the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry, Treasurer of the South West Branch of the BDA and Membership Secretary for CDS members of the BDA. She is a senior dental officer with Severn NHS Trust based in Stroud.

1983

Suki Edge-Partington (née Wilkinson) has 3 children and works part time in the CDS. Jeremy Griffiths married her best friend Lois - they have 2 children and he practises in Horsham. Sharon Gibbs (née Orton) is a consultant orthodontist (in Carshalton?). Kathy Longden (née Foster) has been living in Australia but is returning this year. She has 2 sons. Dave Wood is Treasurer of his local LDC, is the MGDS tutor for the Yorkshire region, and continues to enjoy playing euphonium in a local band. Nigel Brown and his wife are expecting their third child; he practises in Oldham.

1987

Caroline Downer married last year (now Drugan) and is completing a PhD in oral medicine in Bristol. James Spencer was appointed a senior registrar in orthodontics at the Eastman Dental Institute in October 1996.

1988

Ben Pearson should (at the time of going to press) be somewhere between Sydney and Cape Town on Toshiba Wave Warrior in the BT Global Challenge

1989

Nikki Atask is a senior registrar in orthodontics working in Bristol and Taunton.

1992

John Kerrigan was appointed a registrar in orthodontics in Bristol this year.

1996

Clara Scott is on Toshiba Wave Warrior with Ben Pearson (see above).

We record with sadness the deaths of Brian Davidson in 1995 and of Dermot Browne last year - both graduated in 1980.

UBH SOCCER CLUB NEWS

Once again I'm sorry to say few letters have arrived (well, one actually). I am writing this hoping it will arrive before the Newsletter is put to bed.

Mark Levy Benchetton has phoned me twice and we had so much to talk about. He is an avid Man. City fan. Friends will recall his inflatable banana. He was voted player of the year 1976-77 and was at the centre of the action in most games. We chuckled over an incident when Clive Harris as referee was given no option but to send Martin McNally off. I couldn't remember another RED CARD. Mark practises in Bath and lives in Dursley with his second wife Angie and children Rebecca 15, Hannah 15, Adam 12 and the more recent additions, twins Amy and Sophie. These explain his new name Purdey. He obviously has lost none of his shooting skills. He turns out at weekend in the Kingsdown village team, which plays in the Stroud League. He is very interested in the possibility of forming an Old Lags Team to challenge anyone still playing soccer in the Dental Hospital. He is in touch with Paul Wiley who played for both UBH soccer and cricket teams. Paul lives and practises in Urchfont near Devises. However Mark has lost touch with Colin Bunce and Kevin Abbis and would welcome a call from them or anyone else. His home number is 01453 521042.

Phil Ratcliffe has made a wonderful recovery following his terrifying ski accident and subsequent major surgery. However a recent match in the garden with his 5-year-old son Christopher put him back in hospital. He always was a sucker for a nutmeg. When asked about the last year's trials and tribulations, he commented "I would rather have had 3 groin operations and 15 million pounds, but to be fair, I've not done badly". Phil can be reached on his mobile, which as always is on the table by the hat stand just behind the front door (01703 585830).

News of Pete Grimes, once the Danny Baker of the Dental Hospital. He has been appointed consultant oral surgeon at City Hospital Birmingham. He still wears his Staypress trousers and DM's for his clinics, and takes the Financial Times to check on the price of his Millwall shares. Pete and his wife Sandra have 4 children. (Pete, Ben Thatcher is a Wootton Bassett lad.)

News also of Ray Wilkins who treated Kojak in the early 70's. I'm told some of those fillings, which after all are only 27 years old, are failing. I suspect it may be more a case of John collapsing around them - all those headers never did his cusps any good! John Grant (Kojak) is now chaplain at Saltford Hospital, and has visited the Rob Firth emporium for repairs. Rob, you will remember I told you last year, was playing for Old Boltonians 4th XI. I now

hear he is playing for the 8th XI and is still scoring goals, be it past 56-year-old keepers. When not playing soccer Rob can be found on the golf course. He is also hoping to be selected for the forthcoming production at Burnden Park, entitled "Desperately Seeking Promotion". Rob and Jude have 2 children, Joanna and Andrew.

1997 is my year's reunion. I look forward to meeting many friends and team-mates. But that is only one year! I would like to include news from friends of many years, and not the same old names each newsletter. So following on from my closing comments last year, why not give me a ring and Dish The Dirt on your "friends". All news, rumours and gossip to me at: 56 High Street, Wootton Bassett, Swindon, Wilts, SN4 7AQ. Tel: 01793 853411 (home) and 01793 852360 (practice).

Ian Grant

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Copies of the 1996 Newsletter sent to the following alumni were returned to us ("not known at address"). If you know any of them please ask them to send us their new addresses.

Ms J Cox

Mr C Crooks

Mr R T Day

Ms Sarah Evans

Miss L Goddard

Mr B Griffiths

Ms Victoria Burnham

Mr F Leach

Ms S J Watkins

FORTHCOMING REUNIONS

We have been notified that the following reunions are being organized - contact the organizer if you have not already been in touch. Please inform us of any other reunions that are being planned.

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| 1972 | 21-22 November 1997
Bill Armstrong
Epsworth Lodge
13 Grove Road
Wrexham
Clwyd LL1 1DY | Telephone: 01978 359633 (home)
01978 262620 (practice) |
| 1976 | 6 December 1997
Peter Grime
9 Earlsmere
Earlswood
Solihull B94 6AJ | Telephone: 01564 703849 (home)
0121 554 3801 (hospital) |
| 1977 | 27 September 1997
Gill Smalley
Brockfield
Kent Street
Cheddar
Somerset BS27 3LG | Telephone: 01934 742635 |
| 1982 | November 1997 or January 1998 (date to be arranged)
Diana Collard
3 St John's Street
Thornbury
Bristol BS12 2AU | Telephone: 01454 419454 (home)
01453 766331 (clinic) |
| 1983 | October - November 1998 (date to be arranged)
Shilly Sharma
55 Long Ashton Road
Long Ashton
Bristol BS18 9HW | Telephone: 01275 392789 (home)
01275 872066 (practice) |

