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We are pleased to acknowledge the financial support of the Medical Sickness Society in producing this Newsletter.

CHAIRMAN'S 'PIECE'

Reg Andlaw

Reunions continue to be popular. It would be depressing for us if they were not and, indeed, there would be little point in having an alumni association if alumni were not interested in keeping in touch with one another at least occasionally, or in keeping informed of developments at their dental school. Every year new graduates disperse to work in all parts of the country, some to other countries, but it would be sad if the camaraderie built up during 5 years as a group in Bristol were instantly dissipated. Clearly it is not, and it is quickly rekindled during the reunions, which are invariably well attended, even by overseas colleagues who wing in from far corners of the globe.

A pattern is becoming established of year-groups meeting on 5-year anniversaries of their graduation. Last year there were 5-, 10-, 15-, 25- and 30-year reunions (what happened to the 20-year group?), and the pattern is set to continue this year. (Having said that, we should remember the extraordinary record of the class of '66, who have met every year since graduation - see report in 1997 Newsletter). We have worked to promote and support these reunions. Some, of course, have needed no promotion - a public-spirited volunteer already having the job in hand - but others have needed a catalyst to set things in motion. I have had some success in this role, first by identifying and telephoning a 'likely lad/lass' in the year-group and then persuading him/her (with varying degrees of difficulty) to take on the job. Nowadays a reminder and a little encouragement is all that is usually required because organisers, not surprisingly, are invariably elected unanimously by their peers to do their stuff again. This may be a little unfair - but it is much easier second time round. Our support role involves producing names and addresses (on adhesive labels if preferred), providing a list (with telephone numbers) of suitable hotel venues in Bristol, organising a tour of the dental hospital if requested, and generally helping in any way we can. We also offer to cover the organiser's postage and other (reasonable) expenses.

This formula seems to be working quite well. The reunions are more manageable and, we feel, more successful than larger reunions open to all alumni. The fact that most reunions end with a firm resolution to meet again after a further 5 years attests to their success, and this is reflected in the reports that appear in each issue of our Newsletter. It is interesting to read in the current issue that the 10-year group broke new ground last year by meeting at Center Parcs, Longleat, instead of Bristol, mainly because they have been so active procreating that they needed a venue that caters for young offspring - well worth considering by other groups with a similar 'problem'.

Our first publication, in 1991, contained just 10 pages and it seemed appropriate to call it a Newsletter. Since then it has expanded considerably and outgrown this title. But what should we call it? For the time being, at least, it remains a Newsletter, however overgrown.

THE DENTAL SCHOOL YEAR

Ken Marshall, Dental Clinical Dean

There is an old conundrum which asks the question, "How far can a rabbit run into a wood?" The answer, of course, being, "Halfway" for the simple reason that after that point it is no longer going in but coming out! One characteristic about growing older about which I am becoming very aware is that this old conundrum is a pretty good model for the human situation, and particularly our feelings as we become much more conscious of our ultimate mortality. What a morbid thought!

In reality it is simply a lead-in to stating the fact that the older we become the more there is a tendency to look backwards rather than forwards, and to reminisce with a rosy eye on how much better things were in times gone by. It is much better to ponder the coming rather than the going! As part of this, we have a natural propensity to remember only the good times, but also to realise that there has to be a lot of truth in the saying about yesterday's revolutionary becoming today's reactionary. The world around us is changing at an accelerating rate and one of the problems that we all have to deal with is how to distinguish between necessary and beneficial change and, what is all too pervasive in our lives these days, change for change sake. That fashionable change which, by being based neither on science nor logic, inevitably leads us a merry and circular dance back to the position that we were in the first place.

We are constantly being bombarded by a new ideology these days, and its accompanying vocabulary. Clinical governance, risk management, compulsory re-accreditation, accountability, peer review, trusts, health-care groups, corporate dentistry, European directives and the like, and the consequence is that we are fast becoming beaurocrats rather than dentists in the greater part of our working lives. Our particular *bête noir* in the Dental School this year has been the Subject Review and the amount of staff time, effort and nervous energy it consumed. It was, in the end, an exercise which was ultimately unrewarding and unrewarded, but then that's the subject of an alternative and potentially very boring and confusing review with which you don't really want to be bothered.

Looking to the past and to the good things, I think that it's worth while recording the more noteworthy people who have or are about to make that transition to the realms of rose-tintedness. Chris Stephens has now reduced his commitment (at least nominally!) to a part-time basis and has been duly rewarded during the course of the year with an OBE. Whatever the official citation, we all know that Chris has put a tremendous effort into establishing Bristol as a centre of excellence for orthodontics at both the undergraduate and postgraduate level and the honour is well deserved. Jonathan Sandy, as a result of this and his newly acquired professorial status, has become Head of the Division of Child Dental Health and is fast becoming more familiar with the intricacies of the undergraduate curriculum in his additional role of Chairman of the Dental

Education Committee. So here is change that is based on logic and is the inevitable consequence of the old order giving place to new.

Similar changes of order continue to reverberate through Restorative Dentistry. There is still no sign of a replacement for Neil Meredith, although the decision has finally been taken to replace like with like rather than seek to find a possible candidate of professorial status. Following Neil, Louise Foster has decided, after much heart searching, that there is life beyond the Bristol Dental School and resigned her lectureship in January of this year. It is usual in these circumstances to talk of those in Louise's situation moving on to pastures new, but perhaps the more appropriate expression for her progression is to describe her as sailing out into a new sea of experience; for those of you who may not be aware, she signalled her desire for a new career direction by being the dentist on the QE2 for a very enjoyable seven-week period. Rumour has it that Louise enjoyed this so much that she might seriously consider making a habit of it! She will be missed by both staff and students alike and we wish her well for the future.

On the Hospital front, Mark Griffiths has eventually firmed up on his retirement date. He has decided that thirty-odd years in Bristol has been quite enough and will make the break at the end of May. While Louise Foster is in the process of sailing away Mark will, alternatively, fly off into the great blue yonder. I am sure that he will continue to follow his long interest in flying small aircraft and we will be deprived of a singularly talented and inventive colleague. I don't think that Mark would mind me saying that the Hospital management, whilst appreciating the vast amount he has done over the years to contribute to its progress and success, will certainly miss being kept on their toes in the way that only he can.

The Hospital management itself has undergone a few changes, not least of which has been the retirement this year of Yvie Theyer. Our nursing sisters have always had a very fond place in our lives and with Yvie I am sure that this has been no different. You only have to look at the building to appreciate how this particular Sister-cum-Associate General Manager contributed to our lives over the years. Yvie had a major part to play in all of the recent run of refurbishments, she has left her signature firmly on the fabric of the building and we will miss her impish presence around the place.

There is no doubt that each of these people I have already mentioned can be classed as characters; the kind of people who stand out from a crowd, who leave very distinct memories, and who fit very well into our reminiscences of good times past. There is, however, one person who is still very firmly with us, who could never be described as anything else but a character, and who was given a singular honour this year. Who am I talking about? Marilyn Maggs, of course! Marilyn was, in her usual unassuming way, a little embarrassed but, I am sure, deeply moved and honoured to be the recipient of a special award for services to the Dental Hospital in particular and to health services generally in the region. Marilyn received a beautiful Bristol Blue Glass salver at a special ceremony arranged for the occasion.

In addition to these, we have also lost the long-term service of Ian Shimeld, who has decided to take early retirement to concentrate on his sporting life. Tim, Tim the sterilising man has moved on to a new career up to his elbows in plaster, and we have lost two other members of our part-time staff, Catherine Drysdale and Paul Gray. Jane Luker has been appointed as the new Consultant in Radiology, Deborah Franklin as the new Consultant Community Dental Officer, and Andy Sprod has returned to the fold as a Lecturer in Dental Public Health.

The Dental Hospital and School continues to improve its facilities. The latest scheme, which is nearing its completion, is the total refurbishment of the Radiography Department. It will soon return to full digital functioning, but then I always thought the staff there did pull their fingers out when push came to shove! Many of you will be disappointed to hear that we are at last thinking of changing the heads of the phantom head laboratory. It is almost inconceivable that Bristol Dental students will no longer be taught on the same heads that G V Black once used, but then that's progress for you!

So, change upon change upon change. Where and when will it all end and what will there be in Bristol for us all to come back to that we will love and cherish? There is only one way to approach this problem and that is to turn those rose-tinted spectacles to the future and look forward to the many better times to come. I'll look forward to seeing you come the halcyon.

THE STUDENTS' YEAR

Gary Porter, UBDSS President.

In November of last year the ritual of the highly contested election procedure saw the assumption to power of the all-new UBDSS committee. These bright-eyed young individuals, though enthusiastic about the task ahead, were, like myself, a little confused about how everything worked. Having been thrown in at the proverbial deep end there seemed no option but to start swimming.

One of our first decisions was to the credit of our social secretary, Melanie Edwards. Instead of the usual pub crawl down St. Micheal's Hill to welcome the first year students and to introduce them to student life, we held a wild Welcome Party. Thanks to Mel's connections the party was held at the Lansdown pub in Clifton, which was a raging success.

In the beginning of this year we finally saw the actual refurbishment of the dental students' common room. As those of you who have been here for reunions will know it was in dire need of a make-over. Unfortunately for me the credit for this accomplishment goes to last year's committee who, through their fundraising efforts, managed to collect almost £5000. So on behalf of myself and last year's president, Paul McGannity, could I please take this opportunity to thank all of you for your kind donations and support.

As per usual, this year had its share of late bars and fancy dress events. An especially big night was the 70s theme Christmas party, with a live band from the RAF going down very well. As always the staff are always welcome at these events and there is always a good turn out, with some members in particular doing their utmost to outdo the students with their wild antics. All these events in the bar would not be possible without the huge effort of our excellent bar managers, Paul Godbold and Adam Jones, and indeed all those students who donate their time behind the bar.

The annual Clinical Review this year was a big success thanks to the efforts of our wonderful director, Naomi Preston. After hours and hours of immense preparation in the preceding weeks the show on the night went off like clockwork. This was, of course, despite the compulsory heckling from the S-year. The huge participation of almost all of the M-year in one area or another is to be congratulated, indeed it highlighted quite a few budding thespians as well as the odd cross-dresser.

The other major social event of the dental calendar, the Ball, was this year held at Cadbury Manor House. Everybody was in jovial spirit from a combination of alcohol and Chris Bell's witty after dinner speech - no doubt the former was a larger factor. The success of the Ball was down to the Ball committee, and especially Hiedi Nuttal and Lorna Craggs for all their hard work and dedication.

Finally, we look forward to the remainder of the year when we shall hopefully have a night out bowling and boozing, many more fancy dress late bars and, if we're feeling especially organised, maybe a day trip to Alton Towers. This would bring us to the end of the year and next year a new bunch of fresh-faced hopefuls will begin the whole process all over again.

STUDENT ELECTIVES

ADVENTURES IN AUSTRALIA

Claire Patchett and Genevieve Edwards

We were honoured to be invited to spend our elective period in Westmead Pediatric Department, Sydney, under the supervision of Dr Angus Cameron.

Despite the fact that we arrived in the middle of a (very rainy) night, we were greeted by Dr Cameron and taken to our VIP suite (!) in Westmead Hospital. After a very jet-lagged night's sleep we headed into the Department to begin the onerous task of data collection. Over the 4 weeks we extracted information regarding supernumerary teeth from nearly 300 sets of patients' notes, whilst our afternoons were spent in specialist consultant clinics, in theatre, in journal clubs or on trauma clinics.

We also found time to visit the Opera House, Circular Quay, Bondi Beach and sample some of the many restaurants and bars. Sydney is an amazing city. It is vibrant and although we arrived during the 'Olympic makeover' we still found it extremely easy to travel cheaply.



The Opera House, Sydney

The project itself was a study assessing the prevalence, form, sequelae and management of supernumerary teeth. Although it was our intention to investigate the elective extraction of deciduous canines in the management of supernumerary teeth we soon found that due to variability in record quality we completed a more audit-based study. Nevertheless, there were a number of interesting findings. We found that the probability that a permanent incisor associated with a supernumerary tooth would erupt spontaneously was dependent upon the form and site of the supernumerary tooth. Those permanent incisors associated with a supernumerary of conical form were almost twice as likely to erupt spontaneously than those associated with a supernumerary of tuberculate form. This would suggest that there should be different management for different forms of supernumerary tooth.

After all the hard work in Sydney we decided to go our separate ways – both Gen and I had decided to explore the East Coast, but whereas I had plans to fulfil my dream of diving the Great Barrier Reef and the Coral Sea, Gen was planning a more relaxing affair! We headed up to Cairns and from there I jumped on a boat out to the Coral Sea – 10 hours and a huge storm later I arrived to find clear waters and plenty of sharks awaiting! The 5 days I spent there were amazing but exhausting. I dived amongst huge Potato cod, octopus, sharks and the most beautiful reefs I could have ever imagined but by the end of the trip I was glad to see dry land.

From Cairns I headed south to sail around the Whitsundays and explore Fraser Island (the largest sand island in the world) by jeep. I also managed another diving trip to the wreck of the Yongala before flying to Darwin for some outback adventures in the nearby Kakadu National Park. This was yet another highlight of my trip – to be completely in the wilderness miles away from civilisation, and to sleep under the stars in a swag by a roaring campfire was something that has left an indelible mark in my mind. I came back feeling healthy and revived. It was at times strange to be travelling by myself, but I was never really alone. Everywhere I went I met new people to share my experiences and although I missed my friends, my comfy bed and my privacy, I am eager to head off again as soon as possible!

The work from this elective will hopefully be published in the International Journal for Paediatric Dentistry by Patchett, Crawford, Cameron and Stephens. There will also be development of a formal treatment protocol and hopefully a prospective multi-centre trial. Watch this space!

FROM LIMA TO BUENOS AIRES

Eleri Price

South America is definitely a continent I would revisit again and again. I would like to thank the Dental Alumni for the money that I was awarded which helped make this memorable trip possible, enabling me to experience and learn about the extremes of nature and habitation of four different Latin American countries.

Lima – a huge city with a population to match. More than a third of Peru's entire population live here and poverty is an obvious problem. Nevertheless, this didn't spoil the character and spirit of the capital, with its numerous plazas and grand buildings. We visited many plazas and museums, of which the Muse de Oro, with its vast collection of gold, silver, bronze, explicit (!) ceramics and weavings, and the Monastario de San Francisco with its underground catacombs, made the greatest impression on me.

It was in Lima that I did my elective project with Sameena Choudhry, a colleague from my year at Bristol. The Dental Hospital was quite some distance from where we were staying. Our supervisors, who luckily were able to speak English well, gave us a tour and accompanied us to the schools. The first school was the state school which, like all the other state schools in Lima, was painted green – all the private ones are pink! We had an old table to lie the children flat on and a Maglite to help with our examinations. We had lots of fun trying to converse with the children in Spanish, especially as ours was so limited! One of us did all the examining whilst the other recorded the details. We managed to see 700 children in three weeks and then had time to enter the data into the computer and begin some statistical work there.

We examined upper permanent incisors for signs of erosion and trauma. We found quite a lot of dental erosion, which we attributed to the high consumption of fruit and fizzy drinks. Erosion is a subject that hasn't been studied in Peru before, probably because of the high incidence of caries out there being more of a priority, and our supervisors were very interested in our methods of classification and results. We hope that our study will provide some grounds for further work and highlight the potential severity of this problem, which is likely to get worse because of the increased availability of acidic fruit and fizzy drinks, so people need to be made aware of the seriousness of the problem.

We found less trauma in Lima than the prevalence found in the 1993 national survey in the UK. There was very little difference between social backgrounds in the incidence of trauma. A higher proportion of boys had sustained damage to their upper incisors than girls, but the difference was not as significant as in the UK. Fractures into enamel are the most common type of accidental damage both in Lima and in the UK, more severe damage such as luxation being uncommon.

While we were in Lima, we bumped into some old friends from Bristol (small world!) who were out there on a mission building an orphanage for children who had been rescued from the jungle. They were concerned with the dental state of the children and so we decided to go along with some toothbrushes, toothpaste, puppets and posters to teach them a thing or two about looking after their teeth. We also briefly noted down which children needed which teeth removed and arranged for students from the Dental Hospital to go out to the orphanage and have some experience in extractions! I hope our work will be of great benefit to the dental hospital.

We travelled to Nazca where a guide (who spoke very little English, giving us a chance to learn more Spanish!) took us to a small airfield where we went in a four-seater aeroplane over the mystical Nazca Lines. These are ancient carvings in the stony desert of various animals and geometrical figures, the origin of which are still a mystery. We then went to Chaucilla tombs – where mummies lie in open graves, their tendons severed after death to make it possible for them to be bound in the foetal position, facing sunrise, with their hair nailed onto the wall of the tomb, the longer the hair, the higher their social status – and the pre-Inca underground aqueducts.

On to Arequipa, a beautiful valley-city at the foot of three volcanoes, one of which, "El Misty", is still active and last erupted in 1962. We visited many churches, one housing the largest pipe organ in South America, and heard many traditional Peruvian folk bands which lined the colonial streets. From here we went on a two-day mini-bus tour to the Colca Canyon, reaching a high point of 4800m on our way. Chewing coca leaves and *caramelos limon* is supposed to help with altitude sickness! Twice as deep as the Grand Canyon, the Colca Canyon is home to a family of the endangered condor, which flew within arms length of us (apparently they were hungry!).

From Arequipa we flew to Cuzco, the ancient Inca capital. Bursting with history, its layout is in the shape of a puma – this animal, along with the condor and llama, being of great significance to the Incas. A few days were spent exploring the city and the numerous Inca ruins learning about the Spanish invasion in the 15th century. Then we set off on an adventurous four-day hike on the infamous Inca Trail reaching Macchu Pichu by dawn on the fourth day. Watching the sunrise over this magnificent view is one that will stay with me forever. After a celebratory night out back in Cuzco we took a very rocky train to Puno on the north-west coast of Lake Titicaca. Here we visited the Incan chullupas (pre-columbian funeral towers) of Sillustani, the engineering of which is still defeating archaeologists' attempts at rebuilding them! The Inca hierarchy were buried here, along with their servants and pets who would be sacrificed accordingly! The next day we set off on a boat trip on Lake Titicaca (Titicaca = grey puma) visiting the Uros Islands, which are entirely made up of reeds which float on the lake and are home to people from the Uros-Aymara tribe, and the beautiful Taquile Island, enjoying the sunset as we sailed back to shore.

Crossing the border into Bolivia (this journey included bus, foot and boat transport), we reached La Paz, one of the highest capitals in the world which lies in a steep canyon and was founded by the Spaniards on 20th October, 1548. Bolivia has two capitals – La Paz houses the government and Sucre is the official capital. A tour of La Paz included the Valle de la Luna and the witches market, where there are all sorts of witchcraft such as llama fetuses and guitars made out of armadillos! Superstitious doesn't begin to describe these people!

Another rocky train to Oruro and on to Uyuni – the starting point for a tour of the Salt Lakes and isolated lagunas of Bolivia. Over 2000km of pure white solid salt – absolutely stunning scenery against the crisp blue August skies. We had lunch on the cactus-studded Isla Pescado and visited the Hotel Playa Blanca in the middle of the Salar, made entirely of salt (furniture and all!). Many beautiful lagunas were seen on the second day including the Laguna Colorada – a flaming red-coloured lake. Early morning at -20C, the jeep took us to the geysers and hot springs (thawing out our feet!), eventually reaching a high-point of 5000m where the jade waters of Laguna Verde lie at the foot of a volcano. Returning to base on the fourth day, we passed numerous bizarre rock formations including the Salvador Dali rocks, and a train cemetery with old English locomotives dumped there!

On to the highest city of its size in the world at 4070m – Potosi – the silver-mining town of Bolivia. A visit to the mines was a must, leaving us quite amazed and somewhat disturbed at the conditions in which these people worked. It is customary to give the miners presents of dynamite, coca leaves, cigarettes and water.

The official capital, Sucre, is possibly the most charming city I've ever been to, the buildings having all sorts of European influences. Its cathedral took over 120 years to build, and it took an astonishing 12 years for the clock on the spire to reach them from England!

An extremely bumpy ride over a river bed got us to Santa Cruz where we spent a few days recharging our batteries ready for Rio de Janeiro. Rio is a London in a southern hemisphere, but with a harbour, beautiful beaches and tropical forest surrounding it, not to mention the great 38m high O Cristo Redentor, the 396m granite cone Pao de Acucar, and the massive Maracana stadium with a capacity of 120,000. The Portuguese foxed us somewhat (just as we were getting our Spanish off the ground!) but we did manage to get enough off the ground to do a tandem parachute jump over Barra beach – a phenomenal experience!

Next stop was Foz de Iguacu where we visited the Itaipu dam on Rio Parana, the largest single power station in the world producing enough energy to power the whole of Southern Brazil and much of Rio. I also went to a bird park, determined to see some toucans and parrots amongst other colourful wildlife. The main attraction here though, is the Iguacu Fall – 20m higher than the Niagara Falls and about half as wide again – they really were overwhelming! The water plunges in 275 falls over a frontage of 2470m at a rate of 1750 cubic meters a second.

There's a safari walk which takes you around all aspects of the falls, with many butterflies (over 500 different species) and birds. We also took a powerboat ride along the bottom of the falls, which takes you right up close to the massive falls, getting you absolutely soaked – but lots of fun!

Finally to Buenos Aires. More expensive than the rest of South America but this is a city to see and be seen in! It was a perfect place to relax and spend our last few days (and pesos!) enjoying the high life and attractions of the city. By this time we were ready to return home with a sack-full of washing and used films!

An experience that will stay in my memory forever.

A CRACKING TIME IN OZ

Paul McGannity

My leave for good behaviour from the Dental School saw me heading off solo to Melbourne. A couple of months earlier my colleague had to drop out of the trip, but this was not going to stop me on my voyage of self-realisation.

Arriving after a long but comfortable 22-hour journey in Melbourne, I was horrified to be greeted by a billboard advertising a football game between Australia and Manchester United. What could be worse for me, being a Manchester City fan? Perhaps I was to find out later. After getting settled in my hostel dorm, I decided it was about time to head down to the Roo Bar in the basement for a night-cap and meet some people before grabbing a good night's sleep, ready for the exciting day ahead. I was more than a little anxious at the thought of walking into a bar on my own to make polite conversation with a load of strangers. However, I need not have worried – the punters were most approachable and the conversation was far from polite.

I woke to my alarm the next morning with a sore head and a dizzy kind of feeling. If this is what jet-lag felt like, it was remarkably similar to a hangover. My mission for today was to introduce myself to the staff in the Dental Department at the Melbourne Royal Children's Hospital (RCH). On my third attempt and as many tea offers later I found where I was meant to be. The department in RCH is quite small, with about 5 chairs. There are only 2 or 3 full-time members of professional staff, who specialise in the management of medically compromised children. Many more staff leave their private rooms in practices around the city once or twice a week to do their 'charity day', as it is generally known.

The dental department in RCH only treats acute cases of trauma and medically compromised children. As a result, a significant proportion of the patients had cleft lip and/or palate (CLP). Over the next few weeks I was to look into the management of those patients with CLP in terms of a final implant-supported restoration for congenitally missing spaces that had not been closed by orthodontic means. As well as reviewing the practices of RCH's implant clinic

and those in the literature, I also visited some private rooms and saw some implant surgery. I would have assisted in some theatre sessions if it were not for an unfortunate mishap on the fifth day.

'Fifth day' is not quite correct. It was more 'fourth night'. To cut a long and painful story short I was to find out that wheelie bins were higher than I thought and pavement was harder than I was, harder than my right scaphoid bone in my wrist to be precise. Before my trip out to Australia I only expected to be observing their health care system, not experiencing it first hand. The waiting time was short and duly I was sent away with a plaster cast from my thumb to my elbow. At a later review appointment I was encouraged to find out that it was a 'good fracture'! It was close to the blood supply and required a mere 4 weeks of immobilisation. The rest of my time in Melbourne was spent tapping away on a keyboard, writing postcards like a three-year-old and playing left-handed pool after borrowing a nail file to ingeniously round-out an ideal groove in my plaster.

The staff at the hospital were fantastically helpful. I managed to complete my project as well as doing the tourist-in-Melbourne things and getting a couple of weekends away to travel along the Great Ocean Road and meet up with an old friend in Canberra. The MCG was a must whilst being in Melbourne and I was lucky enough to watch an Aussie Rules 'Fuddeeeeee' game.

After leaving Melbourne for good I flew up to Cairns. I spent a week up there before getting my cast removed. I was hoping to keep the pot as a memento, but what with my in-line skates which I brought over from the UK and the didgeridoo I acquired, I already felt more packed than a very small mule with copious amounts of luggage to carry. The biggest down-side of being in plaster was that I ran out of time to do a scuba-diving course. However, I used my time constructively and spent three days up at Cape Tribulation. I felt truly privileged to be in a place where two World Heritage Sites sat alongside one another. There I was chilling out on a beautiful pale beach with a rainforest by my head and the Great Barrier Reef at my toes. This was paradise.

On my trip down the east coast from Cairns to Brisbane I was to find more idyllic areas of amazing natural splendour. Magnetic Island, The Whitsundays, Frazer Island and Noosa were all special for their own reasons. I realise that there's nothing natural about jumping out of a plane at 14,000ft and skydiving back to Earth, but that was one hell of an experience too! My flight from Brisbane to Sydney left me with a couple of days of madness to take in the sights and soak up the atmosphere before the long trip home.

I would like to thank BDAA for their financial support and generosity, which has filled me with so many fond memories. I'm not sure about self-realisation, but my time away certainly proved to confirm a good deal of my suspicions!

SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA

Paru Dave and Sarah Kime

Our elective in Singapore National University was certainly eye-opening! Singapore (and the university, being no different) was clinically clean. Chewing-gum is illegal in Singapore. Being a highly disciplined, even authoritarian, country, the university has quite a different feel to ours in Bristol. We certainly appreciate the egalitarian terms with which we communicate with the staff in Bristol compared with the submissive shyness shown by students with their staff in Singapore. We found it strange that even student treatment carried a charge – we appreciated being able to train without the restrictions of the patients' ability to pay.

Our survey, which dealt with patients' knowledge about diet, oral hygiene, fluoride and erosion, went really quite well. We managed to obtain over 200 participants to complete the survey and were able to use this information to help find out how, as dental health professionals, we can improve our advice to patients. We were also able to give interested patients oral hygiene advice (after they completed the survey!).

We spent a month after completing our elective travelling around Bali and Malaysia. For those who haven't been, it really is paradise on earth. Ubud is the cultural capital of Bali. We saw the awesome, traditional Barong dancing, which was a colourful play to celebrate the national religion of Hinduism. Ubud also specialised in handcrafted woodwork and oil-paintings. It was pleasant to simply stroll around the bazaars admiring all the ornate trinkets that lined the streets.



Local procession – Bali



Terraced rice fields – Bali

Malaysia, separated from Singapore by only a bridge, is quite a different world, with a much slower pace of life. We were shown immense kindness by relatives. It is astounding how people with so little material possessions have shown us just so much kindness and generosity. The simplicity and happiness with which they live was certainly something to try and remember when we returned home. In our materialistic lives it is refreshing to reflect on the happiness that the locals derived from sharing meals and stories about their simple daily lives.

All in all it is a life experience neither of us will ever forget. We are grateful to the Dental Alumni Association for their generosity and support.

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ELECTRONIC CARIES DETECTION REASSESSED

Tim Coates

My interest in electronic caries detection started in my third year as a dental student when this was mentioned as a promising method of occlusal caries diagnosis in posterior teeth. I remember I was surprised that no such device was now available commercially when the clinical methods of visual inspection and bitewing radiographs were poor at detecting dentine caries, for which operative treatment is indicated. An elective project to assess the performance of an electronic caries detector (ECD) appealed to me as being relevant to modern dentistry since over 80% of new lesions occur on occlusal surfaces (Dodds, 1996). Also, as a mature student with experience in scientific research and electronics design, it allowed me to combine these skills with my knowledge of dentistry. Since I have a family, rather than go abroad I decided to undertake the experiments at Bristol Dental Hospital (BDH).

Intact enamel is a good electrical insulator, but decalcification produces porosities that fill with water and mineral ions, providing electrically conductive pathways that reduce the resistance of the enamel. The measurement of resistance across the enamel layer as a method of fissure caries diagnosis was first proposed by Pincus (1951). No such instrument is currently commercially available in the UK, so my first task was to design and build a prototype ECD. The first prototype was built during the summer vacation at the end of my third year.

Soon after this, I received the news that KaVo was to launch their new occlusal caries detector, the DIAGNOdent. With some relief, I found that the DIAGNOdent did not use resistance to detect occlusal caries. Instead, this device used the fluorescence intensity of the enamel in response to illumination with red laser light to detect the caries. This is a new technique for which, unlike resistance-based caries detectors, little information is available. The opportunity to test the DIAGNOdent alongside my ECD was too good to pass up, so arrangements were made to borrow a DIAGNOdent and an experiment was designed to compare these two electronic methods with the visual and radiographic diagnostic technique. In addition, the performance of clinicians who were experienced in occlusal caries diagnosis was compared with an inexperienced (dental student) group for each of the three diagnostic techniques.

Extracted teeth were collected from the Oral Surgery department (BDH) and from local GDPs, and the ECD was made ready for the experiments by the middle of the Spring term in the fourth year. Dr Peter Shellis kindly gave me lab space to do my tests and, during the Spring and Summer terms, a total of 13 (experienced) staff and 25 (inexperienced) students were persuaded to diagnose specified occlusal fissures of fifteen teeth embedded in plaster using the three diagnostic methods. The official elective period in the summer was occupied preparing the teeth histologically in order to arrive at a definitive diagnosis of each of the specified occlusal fissures.

The performance of each of the three diagnostic techniques for fissure caries was evaluated by calculating the proportion of correct diagnoses of diseased fissures (sensitivity) and of healthy fissures (specificity). To do this, the 'disease state' was defined as caries extending into dentine since it is generally accepted that infected dentine should be removed, triggering operative intervention clinically. In contrast, caries restricted to the enamel layer may be treated conservatively, for example by the application of fissure sealant. Both the DIAGNOdent and the ECD gave a digital readout, which had therefore to be interpreted as being either 'sound' or 'carious' by setting a cut-off value. Two such values have been published for the DIAGNOdent (Longbottom and Pitts, 1998, Lussi et al., 1999) and the cut-off for the ECD was determined by initial tests and refined later by analysis of the pooled experimental data.

Perhaps surprisingly, the results indicated no significant difference between the experienced and inexperienced clinicians in the diagnoses made using visual inspection and radiographs. Also, no difference was found between the readings obtained by the two groups when using either the ECD or the DIAGNOdent. Accordingly, the data from the experienced and inexperienced groups were pooled for the analysis of the performance of the three diagnostic methods.

To be of value clinically, both sensitivity and specificity should be as high as possible. As expected from other studies (Lussi, 1991, Kay et al., 1988), the use of visual and radiographic evidence alone was a poor predictor of occlusal fissure caries (sensitivity = 46%) although it only infrequently led to the misdiagnosis of an histologically sound fissure (specificity = 84%). A good reason for the consistently high specificity of visual diagnosis is that occlusal caries is difficult to see until the lesion has penetrated well into the dentine! Thus it has low sensitivity. Other studies have reported sensitivities of less than 30% for visual diagnosis of occlusal caries (Lussi, 1993, Ricketts et al., 1995).

The DIAGNOdent performed poorly, giving high diagnostic sensitivity but low specificity. These were 77% and 53% respectively using the cut-off values published by Longbottom and Pitts (1998), and 76% and 32% respectively using the cut-off values of Lussi et al., (1999). Interestingly, this trend agrees with the findings of Longbottom and Pitts (1998) who obtained corresponding validity values of the DIGANOdent of 95% and 29% respectively. On these results, one might expect DIAGNOdent to misdiagnose between 47% and 71% of truly sound occlusal fissures as having dentine caries.

The sensitivity and specificity values for the ECD were 73% and 75% respectively. These values were in good agreement with the validity values published for other similar resistance-based caries detectors (Ashley et al., 1998, Lussi et al., 1998, Lussi et al., 1999, Ricketts et al., 1995, Ricketts et al., 1996, Rock and Kidd, 1988). Also, the fissure resistance value of $2.1M\Omega$ for the ECD below which there was considered to be dentine caries agrees well with the corresponding cut-off value of $2M\Omega$ determined by Huysmans et al. (1995) for a similar resistance-based caries detector.

This study suggests that the DIAGNOdent will indicate operative intervention for between 47% and 68% of truly sound lesions. This contrasts poorly with the corresponding figure of 16% for visual diagnosis with radiographs and 25% for the ECD, and is out of line with the conservative approach of modern restorative dentistry. The sensitivity of 73% for the ECD indicates this unit to be substantially better in detecting occlusal dentine caries than the method using vision and radiographs. The ECD will therefore be advantageous clinically to detect early dentine lesions that are difficult to diagnose using current clinical methods and are amenable to limited operative treatment. Such early operative intervention reduces the quantity of tooth tissue that must be removed before the tooth is restored. In addition, the ECD may be useful for longitudinal monitoring of caries progression.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Dental Alumni for their financial support, Dr Gordon Gray for supervising this project and the staff and students of BDH for their help and participation.

This elective project won the Dental Protection Prize for the best protocol submitted from BDH. This project report has been submitted for the Dental Protection national prize. I intend to submit this work for publication in a refereed scientific journal.

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A TRANS-IBERIAN CHALLENGE: CYCLING THROUGH SPAIN

Reg Andlaw

Here I am unashamedly 'plugging' a book published in November '99 about a cycling trip I made through Spain in April-May 1997. A review of the book will appear soon in the University's Nonesuch magazine.

On an autumn evening in 1996 I was having a drink in a Somerset pub with my old friend Roger James who had recently retired from general practice in Wells. Out of the blue he said, "Let's cycle across Europe to Gibraltar". I did not take this seriously – neither of us had sat on a bike since we were teenagers – but over the weeks that followed it became clear that he was deadly serious. He had laid down a challenge and there was no way I could duck out of it – I only managed to reduce it from 'across Europe' to 'across Spain'. Our wives thought we were crazy: we were too old, they said, and we should stay at home and do the gardening. However, after protracted negotiations we obtained their reluctant consent.

We set out in late April 1997. Relaxation on the ferry from Plymouth to Santander soon turned into frantic pedalling up into the Cordillera Cantabrica, the mountain range that runs across north-west Spain. Once over the top we crossed more leisurely the flat plains of Castilla y Leon to the grand city of Salamanca, then headed directly south through the undulating grasslands of Extremadura, across the Sierra Morena, down into Andalucia and on to the great Rock of Gibraltar. We had given ourselves three weeks for the journey and we achieved this comfortably, even enjoying the luxury of a few off-days on the way. We covered just over 800 miles and suffered nothing more serious than aching thighs and numb backsides.

I had kept a diary but had no thoughts of writing a book. However, my notes gradually expanded into an article that was published by *Dental Practice* (January 15, 1998), but it was the shock of Roger's sudden death in December 1998 that motivated me to write the book, which I dedicated to him. We had been great friends since our student days long ago at Guy's. His challenge turned out to be demanding but fair – and provided a memorable experience for us both.

The book was published by Country Books, Little Longstone, Derbyshire (ISBN 1-898941-29-7). 150 pages, 48 photographs. Price £8.50, available from bookshops or direct (post free) from the publisher, telephone/fax 01629 840870.

6 6

ALUMNI REUNIONS

1969 REUNION, NOVEMBER 1999

Early in the year a letter came reminding us all that 30 years had elapsed since we qualified and it was time to all get together again. Thank goodness for someone like Chris Barton who was prepared to put in all the hard work and organise yet another reunion for our year.

The weekend was to commence with a tour of the Dental Hospital for those who wanted to see the changes. Not unexpectedly a group was to be found waiting outside the main doors in Lower Maudlin Street on Saturday 20th November, quite unaware of the Chapter House behind. Having finally gathered everyone together, Ken Marshall kindly gave us the guided tour. Some parts still looked familiar, and entering prosthetics none could forget Miss Phippin, the dragon who took such evident pleasure in handing out ridgeless patients. That's all we get nowadays, so in retrospect I suppose it was a good introduction.

Passing what had been the students' common room one could not help remembering the table tennis table, the hours spent playing bridge and dear old Mrs French, our tea lady. Rod Smith reminded us of the day Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. "Just fancy that, Mrs French, men are walking on the moon today" he had said. In her broad Bristol accent she replied: "Still, they've got a nice day for it!", and could not understand why the whole common room fell about.

In the prosthetics lab someone remembered Sid Mattock secretively constructing a series of acrylic objects which bore no resemblance to a denture. It turned out they were false testicles for implantation and they were experimenting to find one of the right specific gravity!

Following the BDH visit there was time for some shopping before crossing the Clifton Suspension Bridge to what we had all remembered as being Ashton Court, now Redwood Lodge Hotel and Country Club. The speaker at the evening meal was Ken Marshall, after which many talked well into the night.

Thirty years of dentistry meant that some of us had retired, some were semi-retired and some were on second or third wives and could not afford to retire. Our token oral surgeon, John Fieldhouse, was present, recovered from his heart attack. The academic was present in the form of John Eveson and I suppose my many years on the GDSC marked me as the politician. Our DRO, Peter Keeton, was unable to attend.



Dinner at Redwood Lodge. A pensive John Eveson opposite Richard Gorham, his wife Jill and Roderick Smith.



A contented John Hart with his wife Judy

Breakfast was a leisurely affair with much catching up still to do. A good weekend was had by all and great debt of gratitude was owed to Chris Barton for his splendid organisation. What, I wonder, will we all be doing in five years' time, when hopefully we will all meet up again?

Tony Lynn

1974 REUNION, DECEMBER 1999

The real event to mark the Millennium took place over the weekend of December 4th/5th which saw the 25th Anniversary of Graduation Reunion for the year of 1974 at the Swallow Royal Hotel in Bristol. The event was attended by twenty-six of the graduates who all, immediately, shed the sobriety gained over the previous twenty-five years and reverted to true dental student form and were loud and exuberant for two days. Unlike the other, and more public, occasion this involved no queuing or failures in rivers of fire – several of those who attended insist that the weekend was ‘smoking’.

It was not only a weekend of great fun (Malcolm Pengelly stole the show with his attire on the Saturday night and might now give Claudia Schiffer a run for her money!), but it was also a weekend that provided the opportunity for all to rediscover the people with whom they had spent so much of their youth and had never really appreciated. Several people made long journeys to attend – Pete Mathieson and Mike Fleetwood from Australia, Geir Kvanme from Norway and Kent ‘Mr Cool’ Glace from St. Lucia – and this made the occasion even more special.

All in all, it was a weekend of enormous fun and interest. Celia Staunton (née White) organised the event – any offers to take over the job for 2004 would be gratefully received! Also, many thanks to Tony Cropper who has set up a website that can be visited at: www.cropp.demon.co.uk/reunion/99 – a truly worthwhile experience that knocks the Dome into second place for value and interest.

Any offers of help for future reunions can be made by contacting Prue (prue@talk21.com) or Celia (cella.staunton@virgin.net).

Prue Simpson

1984 REUNION, OCTOBER 1999

The year that qualified in December 1984 met on the weekend of 30th-31st October 1999. The non-Bristol residents stayed at the Redwood Lodge Hotel and Country Club on the Ashton Court Estate. A quiet meal at the hotel on the Friday evening was attended by Alistair Nichol, who, with his wife and daughter, had travelled from British Columbia, Canada, as well as Jon and Deborah Baber from Dawlish, Devon, and Muriel and David Babb from the Scilly Isles. The event was spent predictably comparing notes about general practice in Canada with salaried GDS and mixed NHS/private practice in the UK.

Saturday was left free to shop, swim, drink etc. before the meal in the evening which was at the Muset restaurant in Clifton. Our number was now swollen to fifteen, including wives and partners. During the day Curtis Sealy had flown in from Trinidad, purely for the weekend! Also arriving were Ann Walker

from Essex and Philip Benson from Manchester. The Bristol residents included Lisa Davies and Andy Sprod, Anthea Hardiman, Helen Stobart and Sophie White. There were a few apologies for absence due to illness and the organiser Mark Bloor was unfortunately unable to attend.

The conversation varied widely from dentistry to vasectomy. We all congratulated each other on the fact that we had not changed a bit and speculated that the non-attenders were all the bald and fat ones. Regrettably, the service at Redwood Lodge was very poor and, being so far from the City, taxis were an expensive rarity. We gathered for a last drink before the bar closed (even for residents), saddened that we were so few and vowing to try and get more to attend next time.

Philip Benson

(Sorry you received poor service in Redwood Lodge. Other have found it good – for example Sarah Sheen in her account of the 1993 reunion there reports that “the staff were superb” – Ed).

1989 REUNION, DECEMBER 1999

The reunion was an informal affair, held at Center Parcs, Longleat, over the weekend of December 3rd-6th.

The event was well attended. Of the original 35 qualifying, 26 came, bringing partners and children. (At the time of the five-year reunion the year had produced only one solitary offspring; this time the event was attended by 27 children and at least 3 ‘bumps’.) There were some noticeable absentees, some of whom would have had lengthy journeys back to the South West. Mike Johns is still in Australia, Reema Massis’s last known address was in Jordan. Tony Coelho, Mark Brown, Trish Healy and Simon McKinnel are reported to be living! – but unable to attend. However, there are no reported sightings of Arash Bagheri.

We had decided to organise the event over a long weekend primarily to get a couple of days off work, but also to allow plenty of time for social intercourse and a chance to meet everyone’s children – and to avoid having yet another tour of the Dental Hospital (only joking Ken – we may want a tour in 5 years’ time).

There was an informal beer session on the Friday evening, mainly attended by dentists only – spouses/partners conveniently babysitting – and on Saturday the main daytime event was a five-a-side football match, during which Jeremy Peak suffered a near fatal head injury at the feet of Peter Andrews. Luckily his recent orthodontic treatment remained intact. (Hope you are feeling better now Jez – I’m sure you didn’t really fancy a drink on Saturday evening anyway!)

The focus of the weekend was dinner at the Grand Café which we almost filled. A fleet of babysitters arrived to give the parents amongst us a well deserved

night out. There were no formalities – just four hours of eating, drinking and table swapping which seemed to fly by in no time.

Group photos were taken during the evening. The only group with a complete turnout was the hardy S3 – luckily there was no bath for them to squeeze into this time!



Big Marky Mark and the It Girls

S1 – Karen Bennett (née Wilson), Mark Haseltine, Louise Barlow (née Seery).
Absentees – Simon McKinnel, Mike Johns

Michelle is hiding a 38-week pregnancy very well

S2 – Chris Whitehead, Michelle Bayliss (née Fleming), Mike Goldsmith.
Absentees – Tony Coelho, Charanjit Masaun





Winning the prize for the only complete group on the night, and more chins than a Chinese telephone director!

S3 – Annie Whitby, Pete Andrews, Lynda Dunham (née Heath), Les Robinson, Emma Curwen (née Passemard)

A rose between two thorns

S5 – Dave Lyons, Nikki May (née Collins), Jez Peak.

Absentees – Reema Massis, Heather McDonald.



Nearly complete – Emma was at the reunion during the daytime

S6 – Helen Chapman (née Robbins), Paul Cole, Jane Samways (née Roberts), Kailish Soneji.
Absentees – Emma Gray (née Chorout).



'S 'in the' Club 7'

S7 – Rhona Thomas (née Maxwell), Debbie Cooper (née Hughes),
Absentees – Trish Healy, Mark Brown



Alex "the Hurricane" Rogers
– more potty than potblack

S8 – Alex Rogers, Nikki Brighton (née Atack), Sarah Cavallo (née McGillivray), Nick Radcliffe.

Absentees – Claire Smith (née Stephenson), although Claire did attend in the daytime, so almost a full turnout!

Sunday involved informal gatherings at the children's ball park, and various lunch venues. Several people were spotted playing on the waterslides during the day. Many people left on Sunday afternoon, although a few stayhards remained until Monday.

There was a lot of positive feedback from this event, and many people have requested that it becomes an annual pre-Christmas getaway.

Pete Andrews and Annie Whitby

1993 REUNION, MAY 1999

The 1993 five-year reunion took place on the weekend of the 14th of May 1999. Tracking everyone down wasn't easy, even though it is only a relatively short period of time since we all escaped from Ken and BDH. Please accept my apologies if some people failed to receive any information. Addresses were given to me by Senate House, but obviously people have moved on in the last few years. Help us out for next time by sending new contact addresses and phone numbers to the alumni office!

In the end about half of the year made it to the reunion, but numbers were bumped up by other halves and children. Unfortunately, Sally Fountain came down with the flu at the last minute and so was unable to make it, and several of the boys were unable to be there as they were quad-biking at Adam Gitlin's stag weekend.

The weekend began in the dental bar on Friday night (where else?!). For once, the sun shone in Bristol, and we all met up for lunch in the sunshine on Saturday on Whiteladies Road. Much gossiping and catching up took place, and Mark and Amanda Goatman (née Bryan) brought their daughter Emily along who was extremely well behaved and slept through the whole episode! To get us in the mood (not that we needed any encouragement) we went to Harvey's for a wine tasting tour in the afternoon, which was great fun.

The main event of the reunion took place on Saturday night at Redwood Lodge, where many of the gang stayed for the weekend. The staff were superb, and the evening was a great success. Careers in dentistry are progressing successfully, as are those out of dentistry! Sharon Webb (now married to her bank manager and with child!) has now completed her art foundation course, and Mark Harris has now entered the world of law and is currently on a law conversion course at the University of the West of England. Farnaz (now proud Mum of two boys) and Mark Forty are nearing completion of their MOrth. Zoe Harrington is doing an MSc in Restorative at the Eastman, and Andy Stiff is doing an MSc by distance learning in Restorative.

The number of YFSs (young free and singles) is dropping rapidly, with Dom Killian, Penny Wilkes, Danyel Yates, Jenny Stott, Kam Shergill, Ritu Patel, Pandu Itula, Andy Trowhill, Cath Teebay, Gill Appleton (finally married Ben!), Sally Hanks and Mark Harris, and Adam Gitlin now all living in married heaven. Shortly to join them are Sarah Deakins, Arsh Mohamed, and Matthew Brooks who got engaged to Ann in Vietnam on millennium night.

Other news...Chris Newby and Lindsay left in November for a world tour and are currently in New Zealand, drinking their way through the country's wine reserves and, of course, doing lots of sport. The line-up of proud parents and parents-to-be now also includes Jenny (Stott) and Steve, Penny (Wilkes) and Fred, and Sharon (Webb) and Mark.



That's all for now...please don't feel shy about volunteering to organise the next one in another 5 years' time!

Sarah Sheen

ADDRESSES WANTED

The addresses we have of the following alumni are incorrect. We would be grateful to be informed of their present addresses.

Mr Peter F Day
 Mr Ralph P Day
 Miss Catherine E Hayes
 Miss Lorna A E McCourt
 Mr Dennis Sara
 Major MA Thackway
 Mr Richard C Thompson
 Miss Fiona Turner
 Miss Sophie White
 Mr Malcolm P Newsome
 Miss Ranmali De Zoysa

ALUMNI NEWS

Please send us snippets of news for inclusion in our next issue – the tear-off slip below the Standing Order form on the centre page may be helpful. Special thanks to Annie Whitby and Pete Andrews for the comprehensive '89 coverage.

1959

Les Jones was District Dental Officer in Cornwall until he took early retirement in 1991, and has moved to Monmouth, closer to his Welsh roots. In 1997 he sold his company that manufactures the Eddystone portable dental unit. He designed the unit in 1983 and it has been used widely throughout the world.

1966

Ian Smith has been in the same practice in Broad Street, Ludlow for 32 years. He has been elected President of the General Dental Practitioners Association.

1969

After organising a very enjoyable reunion last November **Chris Barton** had a successful visit to North Uganda with **Peter Gardner**, the Executive Director of Dentaid, visiting some 11 hospitals and health centres in Lira District, finding a very great dental need. They hope Dentaid can be involved in promoting and helping to provide a primary dental and oral health service this year. **Tony Lynn**, after 30 years building up a multi-surgery practice in Andover, has sold his share and now does "as little as possible", which amounts to about a day a week. His wife **Jane (née Parry)** has retired. Their two children are now aged 30 and 28, their son a banker in the City and their daughter an architect. Tony is a dental adviser to the North and Mid-Hants Health Authority and is working on some 'hush-hush' IT project.

1971

Alan Fornear retired two years ago at the age of 50. He lives in Shipham, in the Mendip Hills. He is divorced, has two daughters at university and two school-age children. He is a Rotarian. **Nigel Lynn** is still part of the Lynn practice in Andover (see above) – problems with a troublesome hip have forced him to give up tennis and take up golf.

1978

Chris Stephens (MDS) was awarded the OBE for services to IT in dentistry, receiving his award on December 8th at a ceremony presided over by Her Majesty The Queen. He is now working with colleagues at the University's Institute of Learning and Research to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of video-conferencing as a means of allowing hospital-based consultants to provide on-line specialist advice, and continuing professional education, to dentists working in general practice.

1980

Andy Toy is in general practice in Loughborough. He has an MSc in Clinical Education and teaches in the MSc course in clinical education at the Nottingham Medical School. He says (modestly, of course): "Those who can, do; those who can't teach; those who can't teach, teach teachers".

1984

Phillp Benson is a lecturer in orthodontics at the Liverpool Dental School and is writing up a PhD thesis. He is married and has two sons aged 6 and 4. Andy Sprod completed his higher training in dental public health in South Wales and is now back in Bristol as a Senior Research Fellow in Dental Public Health. His research interests include needs assessment, dental epidemiology and oral health promotion. He says Lisa (Davies) proposed on this leap year (the outcome is uncertain) but they are happy with their two young children. Lisa works part-time in a Clifton practice.

1985

Charlie Stephanakis sold his practice in Broadway (Gloucestershire) and has now set up in Cheltenham. He has called his practice 'Dental Happiness' (*not a term the general public usually associates with dentistry but no doubt Charlie's cheerful disposition will convert them - Ed*). Rod Ferguson runs a busy orthodontic practice in Cuckfield (West Sussex), and a busy home life with three children. Jenny Young moved on from dentistry, got a degree in business administration and is now Senior Medical Information Officer with Astra Pharmaceuticals. Dave Cooper has left Tunbridge Wells and moved south-west to Devon (or is it Dorset?). Ian Erbetta dashes around Poole harbour on jet-skis and Hilary Baynes, who also lives in Poole, is expecting a baby soon. George Earle is happy in practice in Gibraltar. Carrie Newlands qualified in medicine in Belfast and is now a registrar in East Grinstead. Two Patels - Manoj and Yaggy - are in the USA. Ross Craddock runs the Dentics group of practices in the London area that specialise in cosmetic dentistry, and Sam White runs the Bright White Dental Practice in Battersea (*an interesting title, Sam - we can't remember just how bright you were pre-1985! - Ed*).

1989

Pete Andrews is married to Rachel, with 3 children, twin boys and a girl – he works in a private partnership in Gloucester. Nikki Brighton (née Attack) recently married, is now a senior reg in orthodontics at BDH. Arash Bagheri – who knows? Mark Brown –no reply. Emma Gray (née Chourot) owns her own practice in Devon, and was expecting her first baby at the time of the reunion. Tony Coelho is apparently living in Plymouth. Paul Cole is working in private practice in Woking, lives with his lovely girlfriend Jo. Nikki May (née Collins) lives in Petersfield, is married to Paddy and is currently taking time out to look after their two children. Michelle Bayliss (née Fleming) is married to Steve and at the time of the reunion was expecting their second child – she now lives and works in York. Mike Goldsmith recently completed an MSc in endodontics and is now working in practice filing canals. He has finally admitted to having a girlfriend – nice to meet Celine at the reunion. Mark Haseltine recently engaged to Helen, planning to marry in September 2000, still lives and works in Bristol. Trish Healy – no news. Lynda Dunham (née Heath) is married to Chris, together they have two children and one dental practice in Harrogate. Debbie Cooper (née Hughes) was the first of the forces Mercedes Benz to arrive at the reunion – no mini Coopers yet! Mike Johns is down under – yes in Australia, he is reported to have recently become a father for a second time, has a good suntan and a lovely wife. Although he couldn't make it to the reunion he sent a photo diary of the last ten years of his life. Good on yer mate! Dave Lyons (née 'the rave') is working in Gloucester and is Gloucester BDA secretary. At the time of the reunion he and his wife were expecting their second child. Heather Smith (née McDonald) unfortunately was unable to attend the reunion due to ill health. She is married with one daughter – we all missed you Heather, hope you are keeping well. Sarah Cavallo (née McGillivray) is married to Eduardo the 'Italian stallion', and expecting her second child – she is a partner in a private practice in High Wycombe. Charanjit Masaun is apparently in Wolverhampton, but no recent news. Reema Massis's last known address is in Jordan, again no reply. Rhona Thomas (née Maxwell) was heavily pregnant at the reunion and the latest news is that she has had a boy, 'Frazer' – she still works and lives in Bristol. Simon McKinnel?.....Emma Curwin (née Passemard) is currently taking time out to look after her two children – she lives in Oxford with husband Andy and children William and Hannah. Jez Peak recently left the RAF to set up an orthodontic practice in Plymouth, is married with two children and probably still has a sore head. Nick Radcliffe is married to Max, and has two children, Emily and Henry – he recently joined a private practice in Gloucester. Helen Chapman (née Robbins) is married to Lee, has two boys Oliver and Edward (surely future basketball players) and is a partner in a private practice in Telford. Jane Samway (née Roberts) is married to Steve and has two children, and is still completely mad! Les Robinson is married to Michelle, has two children Francesca and Benjamin, recently established a private squat in Painswick, Gloucestershire – apparently no one would have him as a partner! Alex Rogers

finally has a job removing wisdom teeth from sheep in Wales! Louise Barlow (née Seery) is married to Michael and owns a practice in Devon – they have a little girl, Lucy, and are expecting a second baby in summer 2000. Kallish Soneji, after ten hard years in practice, has begun to wind down and is now working part-time for Sarah, giving him plenty of time to spend with his children Hershni and Nishita. Claire Stephenson is married to Andy – congratulations on the recent birth of their first son. Annie Whitby lives with boyfriend Chris in Bristol, working in Clifton and recently completed DPDS. Chris Whitehead is married to Suzy and has a son Joseph – he owns a practice in Fleetwood. Karen Wilson recently married Paul and is still into sailing. She lives on the Isle of Wight, and is reported to be doing the London Marathon in 2000 – well done Karen!

1992

John Kerrigan won the UTG Research Prize at the British Orthodontic Conference in Glasgow last autumn.

1993

Zoe Harrington was one of the three winners of the 1999 Medical Insurance Agency Scholarship Awards. She is now undertaking a Masters degree programme in restorative dentistry at the Eastman Dental Institute.

1997

Andrew Bain made his acting debut in *Les Miserables* which had a long run at the Bristol Hippodrome – it certainly made a change from VT in Croydon. Very appropriately he played the part of Courfeyrac who was involved in student uprisings in Paris in the early 1800s. After 5 years' intensive rehearsals in the students' bar on Friday evenings he was a dead cert for the part!

UBH SOCCER CLUB NEWS 2000

Well, despite my pleas, my letters to ex-players, and the torrential rain that seemed to be part of 1999, there was no flood of newsy gossip to my mailbox. So to be perfectly blunt, as usual, we were short and desperate. No beautifully-produced cards arrived either. Perhaps friends were still bitter that The Orient had finally got to play at Wembley or worried about my sulks which followed this event. But then every team has its players you depend on, and my Christmas was completed by the arrival of archive material from a cellar in Southampton, home to the Dave Beasant of UBH, Phil Ratcliffe (Ronny). The following day the Orient scored their first goal in over four hours of play. The Mimmellium would be OK, I decided.

The events to be described took place on the 23rd March 1974 and were detailed on the back page of the Green 'un. This was my second year post-

graduation and already I was getting a feeling that the rest of the team were much younger than me. Now at fifty I can assure you it has great advantages.

UBH debut for Tony Welch (75)

This was an unusual debut. Three years into a dental degree Tony Welch had been known to play cricket, rugby, and drink, but his real love was playing bridge in the dental students' common room along with Lorraine Ferguson (who later also emigrated like him to South Africa). On Friday March 22nd UBH Ist XI had a very important match the next day against Mighty Three Star United. A weakened team it has to be said was picked as Lenny Baines "had things to do" and others were away for the weekend. On the morning of the match there was more upset in the cup plans when illness caused another withdrawal. However, this was to be Tony's chance (not that he knew it or wanted it). We were short, desperate, but fortunately Tony's agent could see the merits of the suggested fee of free beer for the evening of the match. Tony made his debut on the wing no less – THE WING meaning the wing that Stanley Gilling wasn't operating on at any particular time. Tony seemed out of breath just changing wings. As said earlier, Three Star were a powerful local side, but our chances were not helped by the fact that young Ratcliffe in goal seemed more interested in another match, namely, Leeds versus Burnley. To this end he had his transistor turned up loud behind him in the net and Burnley were leading 4-1 (I know this is getting more far-fetched by the minute, but seriously this isn't a fairy story, just close!). So where was I? Yes Phil was in heaven, but the rest of the team were not as the UBH keeperrr lets in 7 goals.

So back to Tony, who it must be said looked splendid in his UBH strip posing for photos before the match, but – and here's the rub!! – not one member of that fated team could remember him touching the ball. Strange But True. Mind you, in the bar later he showed dribbling skills not seen since Matthews days!

Tony Welch, Total Appearances for UBH Football Club, 1. I would of course be delighted to hear from any past members, however few games they played.

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 16/11/98 - 15/11/99

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions*	£1934.00	Donations	
Advertisement Medical		Dental Sch. Library	£ 200.00
Sickness Society	£ 150.00	UBDSS	£ 300.00
Donation from '88		Electives	£ 600.00
reunion	<u>£ 15.00</u>	Newsletter	
	<u>£2099.00</u>	Typing	£ 100.00
		Printing	£ 291.60
		Distribution	£ 131.13
		Stationery/postage	£ 93.20
		Miscellaneous	£ 200.49
		Bank Charges	<u>£ 74.08</u>
			£1990.50

* Current subscription is £5 but many old standing orders have not been changed.

BANK BALANCE AT 15TH NOVEMBER 1998 £3111.80
 15TH NOVEMBER 1999 £3220.31