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

From the Chairman/Editor

This is the 11th issue of the *Newsletter* that I have been involved with as editor. The first, in 1991, was a flimsy 10-pager; since then it has



expanded gradually and its contents have settled down into a pattern that is repeated more or less exactly year after year. It is certainly a modest publication, produced fairly cheaply by the University's printing services department, but we feel it achieves its most important function, which is to communicate with our members – and what little feedback we get is favourable. So we are reasonably satisfied with it – but this does not mean that we never think about how we might improve it.

In committee meetings we have considered, for example, whether to enlarge the format to A4, and whether to upgrade the paper quality to improve the clarity of photographs and allow colour reproduction, all of which would make it more visually appealing. But this would greatly increase the cost, and we have decided that our limited resources are better used for other purposes. So this year the *Newsletter* looks much as it has in recent years – but not quite. You will notice the new, highly artistic presentation of headings, and the 'mugshots' of most of the contributors – beginning, of course, with mine! Now, that's progress!

A significant event last year was the enrolment of Chris Stephens into our Committee. It was he who persuaded me in 1990, soon after my retirement from the Dental School, to assume responsibility for our Alumni Association. For some years before that it had been kept alive by enthusiasts like Paul Baines, Phil Key and Gary Mendham who, having done their bit, wanted and deserved to be relieved. Chris did the persuading then: now, in turn, I have persuaded him to join us (he didn't need much persuading!). He is partly retired now, but remains as active and energetic as ever, and his

enthusiasm will no doubt galvanise our Committee into ever-more-effective action.

For several years now we have been aware that many members were still subscribing £1 or £3 (instead of £5, which has been the subscription for at least 10 years), and we have made repeated requests in successive issues of the *Newsletter* for bankers' orders to be updated. Early last year we conducted a comprehensive review of our membership and, to our amazement, found that not only were we still receiving 145 £1 or £3 subscriptions but that we were receiving no subscription at all from 94 members. We wrote to all these members (enclosing a new Standing Order form and SAE), and we are very grateful to those who have responded, but I'm afraid there are still 30 on the '£1/£3 list and 40 on the 'no sub.' list. I hope that highlighting this matter here will serve as a reminder to those who have not responded – we sincerely hope they will want to remain members.

On a more cheerful note, it is a pleasure to report that several successful reunions were again held last year, that we again made a useful donation to the Dental School library and that we supported eight students on their electives. As usual, reports of these reunions and electives are featured in this issue.

Finally I would like to thank all the contributors to this issue of the *Newsletter*, Jane Western for typing the manuscript and Peter Miller for help with many of the photographs.

The Dental School Year

Ken Marshall, Dental Clinical Dean

Three men walked into a shop to buy a radio. The cost of the radio was £30 and so they duly purchased the item and handed the sales



assistant £10 each. As the assistant went to put the money in the till he was questioned by the shop manager as to how much he had charged. The manager then told him that he had actually put that radio into the sale and it should only have cost £25. The assistant was asked to return £5 to the three men. On his way to hand the money back, the assistant was aware that none of the three would know the actual reduction so he decided to give them back

only £1 each and keep the remaining £2 for himself. So, each of the three had, in effect, only paid £9. Three times £9 is £27 which, plus the £2 kept the assistant, is £29 – where did the other £1 go?

Anyone who has had to balance annual accounts will be familiar with the nature of the above conundrum, and many of us will have come across similar situations in our everyday lives which may or may not relate to money. Timetabling students has become very much such a problem these days. Of course there are those amongst you who will remember David Berry's mind-boggling and colourful peg-board timetable display which occupied a whole wall outside the Clinical Dean's office when it was next door to what was then the Board Room. (Yes, that same Board Room which doubled as a staff common room and in which Reg Andlaw was renowned for liberally coating his bread and butter with granulated sugar as an accompaniment to his afternoon tea.) It was a work of art for the Dean to put all of those square pegs into round holes (!) but nothing like the problem we have currently with running a longitudinal side-by-side with a block-release timetable, and planning the detail of movement such that each student gets exactly the same amount of operating as assisting time and that left-handed students always work

with other left-handed students. But then, these are the problems which Clinical Deans are born to resolve and, although tinged with a modicum of regret, it will be with a great sigh of relief that I will be handing on this duty to Gordon Gray come the summer.

In the recent past I have been keeping you informed about the comings and goings of staff, but have had little to say about the relatively stable area of the occupancy of "key" posts, other than to mark Jonathan Sandy's assumption of the role of Chairman of the Dental Education Committee. But, as you will see from the above, we are about to christen a new Clinical Dean and, to ring the changes even further, the christening will be a double event following the "birth" of a new Head of School. The gestation period has been fraught with quite a few false alarms, both about the birth itself and the possibility of miscarriages, but we can now celebrate the happy event and you will all be pleased to know that it's a boy! Alan Harrison will be stepping down after steering us successfully through some particularly choppy waters and the new Head will be Jonathan Cowpe. Jonathan Sandy was honoured by being invited to deliver the prestigious annual Tomes Lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, which he did on 23rd March 2001. You will no doubt have noticed that to guarantee the success of your male offspring these days it is not a bad move to name him Jonathan.



Professor Jonathan Sandy gave the Tomes Lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons of England on 23rd March 2001.

Other than that, there have been some staff movements, one of which has resolved the ongoing efforts to replace Neil Meredith. In the end, it was decided that a like-for-like replacement was the best and Daryll Jagger has already taken up her new position as Senior Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry (Conservative Dentistry). This has been an internal and sideways shift for Daryll from Prosthetics, but does highlight the increasingly integrated nature of Restorative these days, and how all staff in training are following the full Restorative pathway. Daryll's place in Prosthetics has been taken by Lisa McNally, a Liverpool graduate who has her postgraduate qualification from Manchester. Lisa is welcome new blood and has already made her mark in contributing to the restructuring of the means of recording student work totals and progress. The prime mover in this area, however, has been Dominic O'Sullivan. Dominic has been in and out of the Dental School here since he was a student, but has now returned on a more settled basis as a replacement for Louise Foster. He has very quickly come to realise that he who suggests usually gets lumbered! There is no doubt, however, that he has a particular skill in administration and it's going to be my loss that he will be concentrating on his formal training programme later in the year.

There must be something about Bristol that its old students keep on returning to the fold. Another person to maintain the trend has been Sarah Sheen. She has been working with Martin Addy for the last two years in the Clinical Trials Unit, but will have taken up her new appointment as a Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry on the 1st of March. Those of us who know her better might say that it's Tom and not Bristol that has been the attraction, but I like to think differently. Gillian Boswell, having obtained a very distinguished MSc in Endodontics at the Eastman, has also returned but on a part-time basis and, finally, James Puryer has only recently become one of our very valued teachers in general dental practice for one session each week.

In other areas, Robin Matthews has been replaced (if that's at all possible!) by a new Lecturer in Oral Medicine, Selvam Thavaraj, and Sarak Collings (now Ellison) works five sessions each week in Oral Surgery. We have a new Associate General Manager for the Hospital in Kate Sutor who has come to us from a background of general nursing and who is already making her presence felt with her organisational propensity.

It would be nice to think that the halcyon days of academia were returning as was my closing wish in last year's communication, but they still remain (like the NHS dentist) a figment of the imagination. Subject Review has moved on to the Research Assessment Exercise and then, to complete the cycle, a scurry of activity towards the next Subject Review and the visitation from the GDC. Like the initial conundrum, it doesn't matter how many times you do it you're always faced with a deficit, and in this case it's of work to be done. Still, the silver lining which attaches itself to this particular cloud is from the morning glow of a not-too-distant retirement and the knowledge that the workload of the Deanship will be for someone else to worry about in the very near future.



The site adjacent to the dental school on Upper Maudlin Street – archaeologists exposed the remains of a mediaeval building.

A few months later – a new Education Centre going up, financed by the Charitable Trusts of the United Bristol Hospitals and the United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust.



The Students' Year

Rishi Patel, UBDSS President.

First of all, before I begin to recount in detail the goings-on at BDH, I would like to thank the sterling work of the previous committee.



Due to the demands of our course, my year and the fresh-faced J year returned to BDH at the height of summer, whilst our student fraternity were still "living it up!". We therefore sought solace in our first social of the year, a fabulously organised paintballing trip – for which I have social secretary Hannah Fielding to thank. Forty of our finest descended upon "Hamburger Hill" and released the week's tensions by shooting each other in a series of simulated battles.

However, our distressing period of having to purely socialise with medical students was rapidly nearing an end as the whole of Bristol seemed to brace itself for the arrival of the latest influx of bright-eyed sixth formers. Once more the cogs of the UBDSS committee began to turn as the need to integrate the new 1st years started to loom large. It was decided that we should break with the age-old tradition of quite literally crawling down the various public houses on St Michael's Hill. Instead, to introduce the first year to the wonders of the Hathorn Bar, we held a themed Halloween Party, the common room being transformed into an eerie grotto. The night was, by all accounts, a resounding success!

Indeed, this was just the start of the dental socials – there have been several memorable nights at the bar. A large part of the credit for this must go to Hugh Cowley and Rimel Chandarana who have managed the bar brilliantly. Attendance from both staff and students has definitely been on the rise. With its resounding success the committee was able to make a very generous donation on behalf of all at BDH to Comic Relief from the proceeds from the late bar held on that night.

The highlight of this year so far for me and indeed the rest of my academic year has to be the Clinical Revue. Through endless nights of script amendments and finally rehearsals, the big night itself went without a single glitch. Judging by the rapturous applause the performance was enjoyed by the hundreds who filled Jacobs Wells Community Centre to the rafters. Credit should be given to the whole year as everyone played their part, but in particular to directors Paroo Mistry and Simon Khoury who managed to harness much of the raw acting talent that lies hidden in the depth of the dental school.

I could not complete a full account of the year's events without mentioning the major social event of the dental calendar, the Annual Dental Ball, this year being spiced up with a hispanic theme and held at the Marriot in Bristol. Thanks go to Melanie Edwards and Marnie Fullarton for organising a lovely evening.

Finally, with Easter approaching and a well deserved, but rather short vacation, sixty of us are preparing ourselves for an all-out assault on Val Thorens. I hope that the French are bracing themselves!

I hope that you have all enjoyed this summary of events down at BDH. I'm sure you will all appreciate the place is as vibrant as ever.

STUDENT ELECTIVES

Experiences Of India

Gary Porter and Mark Fullarton



It was a long time coming but finally, after the hectic packing and the exhausting 9½ hour flight, we touched down in Chennai, formerly Madras. My first memory of India was of the immense heat and humidity as we disembarked, which made it almost difficult to breath. At the airport we were met by two student dentists from the Ragas Dental School who brought us to our hotel and then gave us a tour of the city.

Finally we met Dr Gunaseelan and, after one quick phone call from him, we were permitted to attend the South India Cancer Institute as observers. We later found out that this was a great privilege, as competition to get in was fierce. This was so we could gain an insight for our project on the treatment of oral cancer in India. Our time in the Cancer Institute was definitely an eye-opening experience; a lot of the patients were presenting very late with lesions you just would not see here in Britain. It was sad that most presented with the same history of betel nut chewing and/or smoking beedis, which are very cheap Indian cigarettes - these are the cultural habits which lead to the increased incidence of oral carcinoma in India. There is now a preventive campaign to educate on the dangers of these habits.

The director of the hospital, Dr Ravi Kannan, was very helpful and he made sure that we spent time in all of the different departments during our stay so that we could get an overview of the treatment within the hospital. Due to financial constraints the treatment differed greatly from what we would expect here in Britain. The first line of

treatment for all patients was radiotherapy because it was cheap, effective and easy to provide. Unfortunately this meant that there were a lot of recurrences, with secondaries arising outside the field of the original beam. With 10,000 new patients a year you can see how it would be difficult to provide chemotherapy and surgery for all.

Throughout our time in India the poverty was grossly apparent, with whole families on the streets with all their worldly possessions stacked up beside them. Poor people would travel for miles to have treatment at the hospital where they would sleep awaiting treatment.

Also during our time in Chennai we spent some time in the Ragas Dental School. Dr Gunaseelan has some amazing achievements under his belt. As well as being a very successful maxillofacial surgeon specialising in cleft lip and palate he has built his own dental school from scratch. The school is now on a new campus site where there is accommodation and teaching facilities for both the pre-clinical and clinical students, a massive project.

We finally left Chennai and headed for a small town called Hampi to begin our travels and to experience a little more of India. Hampi really was in the middle of nowhere but it was worth the trek. It is an ancient town with about twenty Hindu temples dotted around the area. All of the temples were quiet and peaceful as it was the monsoon season and few people were there. We were lucky to get a few days of literally blistering sunshine. Then we headed for Goa to make use of the sun and sit on the beach for a few days. Also it was a rest, so I could recover from a gastric problem commonly suffered by western travellers in India. On my recovery we headed for Sanchi, which we had heard was a small village with some beautiful Buddhist stupas. On arrival we discovered Sanchi was a quiet little village to say the least, and the stupas were intriguing, but having just come from Hampi I'm afraid it was a bit of an anti-climax.

The magnificence and grandeur of Hampi was finally topped when we reached Agra, with the Red Fort and the famous Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal, which is basically a burial ground built by Shah Jahan for his second wife, really is breath-taking and no photograph really does it justice. It is worth the effort to get up before dawn and watch the sun rise over the Taj, despite the extortionate admission fee which ensures that only westerners and wealthy Indians get in.

*No need
for a
caption
here!*



Soon we were off to Jaisalmer for the one thing anyone goes to Jaisalmer for, the camel safari. We spent five days in the Thar desert on the camels, being cooked under the sun during the day and sleeping on a sand dune under the stars, a memory which will stay with us forever. After all that time on the camels we caught a bus to Udiapur to give our behinds a rest. This is where they shot the film Octapussy with Roger Moore, and we splashed out and had dinner in the famous Lake Palace Hotel which features in the film.

Next we headed for Shimla in the mountains, via Delhi on Independence Day; hectic is not the word. The Himalayas were awe-inspiring, as expected, and the view from our window in the morning as the sun shone down on the mountains was something to get out of bed for. The view is not what you would expect from India; the lush green trees are in stark contrast to the arid desert we had just left.

Reluctantly we had to board the "toy train" and wind our way back down through the mountains to Delhi for a few days of shopping and a rest before having to board the plane and head home. This trip really was the experience of a lifetime and no written piece or photograph can convey the colour, smells and sounds that make India one of the world's most diverse and beautiful countries. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the BDAA for all their help and support in making it possible.

Working with Children in Manchester and London

Sam Copestake and Alison Chapman



Not the most exotic of elective locations to choose but, with a mutual interest in and enjoyment of paediatrics, Sam and I decided to spend our elective amongst classrooms full of 7- and 8-year-old inner-city primary school children!

Sam headed to Manchester, whilst I went to London. We had prepared a teaching programme which included worksheets, quizzes, a safe snacks party and the inevitable “what happens when you put a tooth in a jam jar full of coke” experiment. The experiment was based on the national curriculum guidelines for teaching oral health to this age group – with science, maths and literature skills incorporated. We also included what we felt were important preventive messages, such as decreasing the consumption of erosive drinks.

We tested the children’s dental knowledge before and after our teaching programme and compared results between the London and Manchester schools. Our results were as follows:

1. The children in Manchester had significantly higher levels of dental knowledge than those in London prior to our teaching. This was probably due to teaching the Manchester children had previously received from the community dental service.
2. After the teaching programme both the London and Manchester children had significantly increased their dental knowledge, and there was also no longer a difference in knowledge levels between the two schools.

We concluded that it would be beneficial to have such a teaching programme widely available for teachers to use as a resource. Such a programme already exists for secondary schools – “Natural Nashers” – but there is not a primary school equivalent.

As well as teaching these lessons we volunteered for a number of other school activities. Sam managed to get involved with, and indeed play her French horn in, a school production of 'Joseph'. I went on two school trips (they don't get any better) and heard a good spread of Mr Yellow Hat and other early reading gems!

We both thoroughly enjoyed teaching at these schools; the children were a lot of fun and very appreciative. Spending that much time with the children meant that we learnt how to motivate them and how to control them! As many of the children were from poor and often immigrant families, we gained an insight into why oral health is often the most pressing issue for them. One boy who didn't have his own toothbrush could hardly believe it when I told him he could keep the colour-change-handle toothbrush that I had just taught him how to brush his teeth with!



*Children with
toothbrush
and "safe"
snacks*



*London
class with
completed
work*

The Bristol Dental Alumni Association donation paid for a toothbrush for all the children as well as a feast of healthy snacks for the safe snacks party (cheese and Marmite sandwiches all round!). We and the children are very grateful for their support.

On finishing our elective we declined the sights of Manchester and London for a cycling trip in Spain (Sam) and a visit to a friend in California (Alison). Sam had the opportunity to return to the school in Manchester after the summer break, where she found further encouraging results: on re-testing she found that the children's dental knowledge had not significantly decreased over their holidays – whether the same was true for us is another matter.....

A Project in Uganda

Marnie Fullarton, Elizabeth Edwards and Roz Walker



We were very fortunate to be the first dental students that the dental charity 'Dentaid' allowed under their guidance to carry out an elective project. Uganda, East Africa, was our choice of destination where Dentaid has contacts in a northern town, Lira. This was an exciting prospect as we had always wished to visit Africa, and we had the possibility of carrying out clinical work in the region.

Our journey involved a flight to the capital, Kampala, where we were met by friends of Dentaid. Then a rapid, bumpy bus ride for three hours up north with several live turkeys rustling at our feet!

Bishop Tom O'Kello, the main co-ordinator for Dentaid in Lira, arranged accommodation for us in the 'All Nations Christian Care Conference Centre'. This was to be our home for the next month, which began with no power, so we had a slightly eerie, very dark first night!

We received a warm welcome from Dr Fred Nyankore, the dental surgeon for the whole health authority. We were then to meet the local council and hospital officials, to be formally welcomed and given the go-ahead to start our project. We compiled a detailed timetable with Dr Nyankore, including primary school visits, carrying out treatment in the town's dental unit and out in the villages, and he arranged hospital transport for us. We undertook an Oral Health Needs Assessment of 12-year-olds. We compiled data from 200

children, which consisted of a clinical examination and a questionnaire investigating diet, oral hygiene, dental attendance, attitudes towards appearance, and the causes of tooth decay.

The second part of our work was to provide some dental treatment to the villagers in the Lira District. The inhabitants of these villages have little or no access to dental treatment due to the absence of dental equipment in the sub-district health centres and insufficient funds to travel to the dental unit in Lira town. We were extremely grateful to UK dental practitioners in the South West who were able to donate equipment so we could carry out numerous extractions on a long queue of very patient local people. Unfortunately the need was so great that we could not provide help for all, as a hundred-odd arrived each day. Those treated were extremely co-operative and grateful, as some said they'd been in pain for years.

We also had the great fortune that Dr Stuart Gerrish, a dentist from Cardiff, was working in the neighbouring district at the time with The Care and Share Foundation. We took another rapid bus to Soroti to meet the team. We were very pleased to work with Stuart and we managed to carry out a great many extractions in two days, and pick up some good advice.

We also had some time to visit the town of Lira, experiencing the markets, meeting new people and some local bars! Making good friends with a local DJ, we were able to make a short programme about dental health, and one night read the local news to great amusement of everyone involved!

Our accommodation was very basic, but we became accustomed to the cold showers. In Soroti we even got to shower under the stars! Our knowledge of the local language was basic, but Moses, our camera man, was a great translator, and most understood 'paralysed' for 'numb'!

Our work in Lira became very concentrated and physically demanding, mainly due to the heat. We had little contact with the outside world, but great support from the local church and Dr Nyankore. The schools were very accommodating and intrigued by our strange requests for the 12-year-olds to lie on a table to be examined.

When our time was over we parted from and thanked our friends, and headed back to Kampala. We picked up our last souvenirs and experienced a day white-water rafting near the source of the Nile. Roz parted from the two of us to return home. We (Marnie and Lizzie) took an overnight bus to Nairobi, which was a

little terrifying, to join a trip to travel around East Africa. We finished this in September in Victoria Falls.

Our main project findings were a lower decay rate in Ugandan children than that of children in the UK. The caries figures in Lira are higher than were recorded in Uganda in 1996. This increase, if it continues, could have serious effects on the population if more provision for dental care is not planned. This is a difficult issue, as stretched medical budgets have little money left for dentistry, but, as we experienced, dental infections can be life-threatening.

This trip was a real adventure for all three of us, and an invaluable opportunity to be able to do clinical work abroad and gain extraction experience. We are very grateful to the Bristol Dental Alumni Association for their generosity and support.

Attitudes to the Loss of Teeth in Bristol and Singapore

Maya Ringshall and Claire Savage



Our elective period was spent in several countries, namely England, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. However, our project itself was carried out in Bristol Dental Hospital and Orchard Road Dental Practice, Singapore. We chose to investigate patients' attitudes to the loss of teeth and their knowledge of the methods for their replacement, because we have encountered in our undergraduate training patients who have shown strong, yet inappropriate, views about the best method of tooth replacement for them, and have expressed a wide variety of reasons why a missing tooth in the dental arch affects their life.

The information was gained by interviewing a random sample of patients waiting for treatment. We used a set questionnaire that we had previously formulated and did not allow the patients to see the possible answers, to allow them to answer in their own words. There

were five extra questions for those patients who had already experienced tooth loss. The questionnaire covered the following topics:

1. The importance of appearance
2. Reasons for tooth loss and expectations of tooth loss
3. The difference in attitude to loss of an anterior tooth and a posterior tooth
4. Knowledge of various dental prostheses
5. Satisfaction with existing prostheses expressed by patients who had previously lost teeth
6. How tooth loss has affected present oral hygiene

The results produced raised some interesting issues. For example, only 12% of patients expected to become edentulous during their lifetime. This reflects how edentulousness is no longer considered an expected part of ageing. Women appeared more knowledgeable on reasons for tooth loss and knowledge of prostheses, despite equal number of males and females being asked. Unsurprisingly, loss of an anterior tooth caused many people to express strongly how it would affect them socially and how much distress it would cause. Loss of a back tooth brought up some concerns over reduced eating ability, but generally did not cause upset. It was encouraging to hear of the improvements in oral care that had occurred following tooth loss, and that 95% of patients were satisfied with their existing prostheses.

We found it hard to compare our results from Bristol and Singapore, so our project results were based on information gained from Bristol alone. Our time at Orchard Road Dental Practice was still of great value to us. We were able to work-shadow a variety of dentists of varying specialty within the practice (in which over 20 dental surgeons were working). It was interesting to learn how much of the specialist dental work was carried out in Singapore on patients from all countries in South East Asia – several of the patients had travelled a long way for their treatment. We also attended the International Singapore Annual Dental Conference which involved a series of lectures and some demonstrations, especially from materials companies trying to sell newly researched products!

On completion of our project and shadow-working, we spent the following several weeks travelling to Sydney, Australia and to New Zealand. We were lucky enough to meet many people also travelling, from so many countries (including some from Bristol

University!). We spent one week in Sydney; at that time everyone seemed to be preparing for the Olympic Games, so we made sure we visited the Olympic Park as well as seeing the famous landmarks such as the Harbour Bridge, Opera House and Bondi Beach. Unfortunately, the weather was far from beachy! Our weeks in New Zealand consisted of lots of exercise and adrenaline – skiing, skydiving and glacier walking were just some of the activities, but we still found plenty of time to relax and drink coffee in Starbucks!

We had a tremendous time during our elective period and would like to thank the Bristol Dental Alumni Association for generously donating some funds to aid our visit to Singapore and our attendance at the dental conference.

ALUMNI REUNIONS

1980 REUNION, OCTOBER 2000

A small but cheery bunch gathered at the Bristol Royal Marriott Hotel (previously the Swallow Royal) on the evening of October 7th for 'A Night to Remember'. Much of what we remembered had little to do with dentistry, it has to be said. This is all to the good as this era of Continued Professional Development demands that we forget what we were taught and learn something new. Of course, some of us never bothered learning it in the first place!

The entertainment was entirely home grown, the centre of attention being our speaker John Serrano-Davey – nothing changed there. It was also remarkable how many of us looked exactly the same as we had done 20 years previously. All in all, the night was a lot of fun and much better than many of us had expected. Perhaps the ultimate measure of this was the reluctance of anyone to leave – the party continuing in the hotel bar well past 3.00am. Somebody was rash enough to pronounce that we should all meet again in 5 years' time. If you get an invite, try and make it – you'll probably be surprised and find you'll enjoy it, too!

Andy Toy

1990 REUNION, NOVEMBER 2000

On a cold day in November 2000, amongst some of the worst recorded weather in living memory, the social core of 1990 (over half the year, as it turns out) met at Redwood Lodge Country club. This had been the site of previous triumph for the whole year, as Dr Robin Mathews, our erstwhile clinical dean, wore white gloves that night.

Few of us would have presumed to anticipate the degree of success that so many of the year have shown in their chosen careers. It was, however, pleasing to see that essentially we remain the same; moreover, as with good wines, we probably improve with age.

The effort made by friends to travel the length and breadth of Britain to share an evening together was well rewarded. The convivial atmosphere and warmth generated has led us all to declare this a most successful five-yearly event, one which we shall endeavour to maintain. Our thoughts are with members of the year who, through personal difficulties, could not be with us that night.

The year group will muster again in 2005.

Simon Uren

1995 REUNION, FEBRUARY 2001

The year of 1995 eventually celebrated their first reunion on the 10th February 2001. Of the 43 students who graduated, some 32 attended. The event took place at Redwood Lodge which proved to be a superb venue that provided excellent food; an alcohol-influenced laughing session followed later in the evening. I am sure that all involved will agree in saying that it was great to see many old faces. Everyone has changed very little, apart from one or two waistlines which, we were informed, were the result of “comfortable living”.

Past students and their partners found it amusing when I told them that the day before the reunion I had been driving to work trying to think of something to say after the meal which the dentists and the non-dentists would find funny. A dirty joke perhaps – no, might be offensive. Ask Luke to take his shirt off, just for old times sake – no, we have all seen his chest too many times before. (Come to think of it, that is not all that he used to reveal in the Dental Students’ Common Room.) Anyway, my problem was solved when I got to the front door and noted that at the side of my name plaque, which reads “C. Langley – Dental Surgeon”, someone had added the word “TW*T”! More worrying was the fact that the principal, on discovering this, explained how he thought it was nice that the people of Hull were getting to know me so well. I explained that all anaesthesia for my patients would come to a stop until the culprit owned up! Trevor then asked Chris Conlon for his marker pen back and promised to refund his travelling expenses. I don’t quite understand what they meant!



1995 Reunion

On a more serious note, several of the year are furthering their careers in orthodontics. These include Trev Hodge, Lindsey Dodgson, Prag Agarwal. Luke Cascarini has now qualified in Medicine and informed us that he was the only proper "Doctor" amongst us! The rest of us seem happy in general practice.

The marriage list is forever getting bigger: those hitched now include Sarah Evans, Sarah Hutch, Andy House, Lou Hopper, Rory McNulty (to Saskia), James Nickson and Julie-Anne (to her VT boss!). Families have started for Sohail Rauf (Sarah is expecting their THIRD child later in the year), Julie Anne (expecting their second), and Sarah Hutch, who now has a little girl.

Those who couldn't attend include Sally Marsland, Alison Barnfather, John Saunders, Chris Sale and Keval Shah. Shame on you!

In summary, an excellent night was had by all. I promised to organise the next five-year reunion if everyone sponsored me for Oxfam when I attempt to run the London Marathon. This raised over £200. Well done gang, and thanks for a very humorous evening.

Colin Langley

ALUMNI NEWS

We have received a better response than usual this year to our requests for snippets of news – our thanks to those who wrote to us. Other news included below has come either directly from personal contacts and telephone conversations, or second-hand from various sources.

Please keep the contributions coming, either by post or e-mail to the addresses shown on the inside front cover of this Newsletter, or using the form that can be downloaded from our website <http://www.dent.bris.ac.uk.ac.uk/alumni/bdaa.htm>

Unfortunately Ian Grant has been unable this year to contribute his usual section on UBH Soccer Club news. He has been a regular contributor, but news from his old mates seems to have dried up – temporarily we hope.

1957

Gordon Tucker reached the ripe old age of 70 in February and celebrated with a group of friends (*I was there! –Ed*) at Bristol's newest hotel, the Hotel du Vin, which has been beautifully converted from an old sugar refinery just off The Centre. He has been actively involved over the years with local branches of the BDA, the Community Dental Services Group and the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry (acting as President, Chairman or Secretary for all of them at some time or other), and is currently the long-serving Secretary of the Bristol Civic Society, having also (of course!) been its Chairman in the past.

1959

Richard Pratt wrote to say that he found our last Newsletter "fascinating" (*thanks, Richard*). He no longer does any dentistry but enjoys a full and active life. He is still a member of, and supports, his local BDA branch.

1963

Norman Killingback still works a few sessions a week at BDH. He is disgustingly fit: last year he completed the London Marathon in 4 hours and 25 minutes, raising £1,300 for Changing Faces, the charity supporting victims of facial disfigurement. He is also a keen long-distance walker, having conquered several of the long-distance paths around the country, and an avid skier. For less energetic exercise he is a member of a quartet (Gordon Tucker, Peter Miller and your editor) who take regular hikes into the surrounding countryside, researching the quality of the local beers en route.

1966

Bob Binnersley is a member of the '66 Club', that amazing group that has had a reunion every year since their graduation. He is President of the Herefordshire Dental Society, Chairman of Hereford L.D.C. and is a member of Hereford Hospitals Cricket Club. News of **Ian Standing** has come from **Jon Moore (86)**. Ian is still the landlord of Jon's practice in Coleford. He retired from dentistry some years ago, ran the Forest of Dean Heritage Museum and is now County Heritage Officer with Hereford County Council. (*I asked Jon whether Ian still sports his trademark footwear – he thinks the sandals are still in favour, but he's not sure about the red socks – Ed*).

1969

Robert Grocott is a full-time general dental practitioner in Newcastle, Staffordshire, and has been a magistrate for North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent since 1987.

1970

Martin Dyer runs his three-surgery practice in Welham Green, near Hatfield, Hertfordshire, and also works part-time as Primary Care Dental Adviser to East and North Hertfordshire Health Authority. He is an active L.D.C. member, having previously been its secretary for 6 ½ years. Reminiscing about student days, he remembers being a member of Professor Bernie Moxham's Fun Palace and playing football with the UBH team and the University 1st XI. Later he played Athenian League football for Finchley, although he is a Barnet supporter and honorary dental surgeon to the club. He lives just outside Welwyn with his wife Monica who has opened an internet café in Hemel Hempstead (they can be contacted on brambles at

martin monica.netline UK.net). He has had recent contact with Trevor Mayes (71) and John Chope (72).

1971

'Tux' Abiose is maxillofacial surgeon and captain in the United Arab Emirates Army, based in Abu Dhabi. **David Brooker** feels more relaxed after having passed over some administrative duties to a management company. He enjoys golf and amateur dramatics. He has agreed to organise his year's 35-year reunion in 2006.

1975

Stephen Lisney was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Bristol University, last July.

1976

Although **Diana Ostick** retired from dentistry due to ill health in February '98 she enjoys keeping up to date with anything related to the world of dentistry. She hopes her friends think that she made a reasonable appearance on 15-1.

1979

Chris Morris wrote to ask for a copy of our last Newsletter, saying he was not a member but would like to join (sadly he has not done so yet!). He retired from clinical dentistry about 10 years ago, moved into the law, and now specialises in acting for dentists and dental bodies, thus maintaining an active association with the profession. He has a young family but manages to play some squash and tennis – he remembers some good games of tennis with your editor in the 70s.

1981

Gordon Shovlin is organising a reunion in November (see page 30). He has been persuaded to play football again – he thinks he is a bit 'past it' but gives it a go. He plays in a team which includes **Barrie Gilling (75)** and **Mike Wilcox (81)** – a team of veterans, average age about 35! 'Goal-a-game' Gilling has not been living up to his reputation and the team loses most of its matches, but they have fun. Gordon's wife **Kay** works part-time with him – they have two daughters **Emma** aged 11 and **Lucy** 9. **Alison Williams** was awarded a PhD in December last year – her subject was the care of children born with cleft lip and palate in the UK.

1982

Diana Collard is a Senior Dental Officer in Gloucestershire, based in Stroud, and lives in Thornbury, near Bristol. Over the years she has been actively involved in the Bristol dental scene, serving as an officer of various local groups – and she is, of course, still our Secretary. She has decided, however, that it is time to become more active outside dentistry – as a start she has bought an allotment on which she grows herbs and vegetables.

1983

Sarah Pearson lives in Northampton, is married to Udi and they have a 2-year-old daughter called Judy. She works part-time in the Community Dental Service. **Ian Smillie** is in Swansea and in July organises an annual Wobbledon tennis tournament on his home lawn – apparently the balls tend to wobble rather unpredictably on it, adding to the skill required to master the game. **Ken Hemmings (82)** was the proud winner last year.

1984

Christopher Avery studied medicine at Cambridge and subsequently completed training in maxillofacial surgery at East Grinstead. He was appointed Consultant at Leicester Royal Infirmary last year, and his special interests are salivary gland surgery, head and neck cancer and microsurgical reconstruction. **Friedy Luther** was appointed Head of the Department of Child Dental Health in Leeds, and **Philip Benson** was appointed Consultant Senior Lecturer in Orthodontics in Sheffield. **Andy Sprod**, who is Senior Research Fellow in Dental Public Health in Bristol, was disappointed by the poor turn-out at their 15-year reunion in October 1999, but was pleased to meet **Alastair Nicoll** and **Curtis Sealey**, who came from Canada and Trinidad, respectively. He has heard from **Chris Tan** in Malaysia, who is the proud father of two children and still tells terrible jokes.

1985

Hilary Baynes is working part-time in practice in Poole. She is married and has a son, Jamie, born in December 1999. **Dave Obree** has bought a practice in Long Ashton, just outside Bristol, but still works most days in the Redland practice.

1986

Martin Fulford is this year's President of the Western Counties Branch of the BDA. **Jon Moore**, who has worked many years in Coleford, in the Forest of Dean, now also works one morning a week with **Dave Obree (85)** in Long Ashton, Bristol. He lives in Bristol, is married with three children aged 5, 3 and 1, plays some tennis and pursues his "usual interests" (*he says his friends will know what they are, but we can only guess – Ed*). **Charlie Stephanakis** has won this year's *Probe* Dentist of the Year Award, presented to him in March at the Dorchester Hotel in London, and **Andrew Keetley (85)** was 'highly commended'. Last year Charlie's nurse won the Dental Nurse of the Year Award, so they are all smiles at the Dental Happiness practice in Cheltenham. He has recently bought a second practice in Cheltenham, but he says he will organise a 15-year reunion (albeit a year late) if his friends nag him enough.

1987

Caroline Downer is now in the second year of specialist training in Dental Public Health.

1989

Nikki Atack has been appointed Consultant in Orthodontics in Taunton and Yeovil. **Annie Whitby** is now a partner with **Graham Hooper (73)** in Bristol and last year got married in Las Vegas by an Elvis lookalike (*I wish we had more details of this – Ed*).

1996

Chris Crook has been in Sydney, Australia, for the last two years, in the first year doing oral surgery in a dental hospital and in the second working in general practice. He is likely to be there for at least another year and could provide a room and a cold beer for any 1996 graduates who may pass through. **Francis Scriven** and **Tom Hartridge** cannot keep away from Bristol and are now in the second year of the Bristol MSc/MOrth Course.

1997

Kerry Catchpole has moved to Amsterdam to be with her boyfriend whose job took him there. She is working in general practice there.

1998

After graduation Emma Garrett enjoyed life up north in VT, but had a car crash which left her with back and neck problems. She spent 7 weeks in Tanzania in December '99/January '00, enjoying a hot Christmas and New Year. Returning to England she got a job as a Clinical Research Fellow at King's College Hospital, doing research into xerostomia. She is often in touch with Fiona Forsyth, and has met Pat Dixon and Rachel Addison at a VT study day.

2000

Hashim Popat is in a VT job in Sheffield

ADDRESSES WANTED

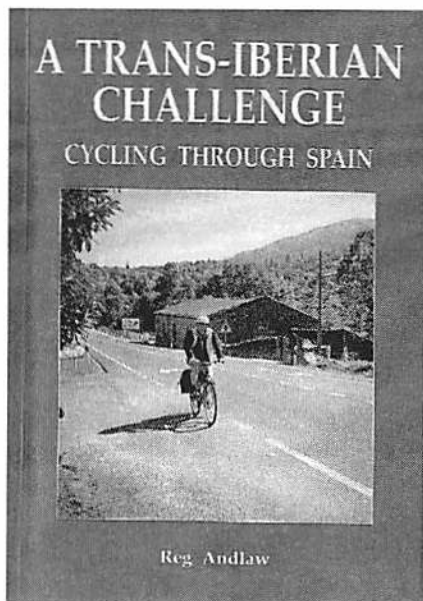
We do not have correct addresses for the following members. Any help in locating them would be greatly appreciated.

Peter F. Day
 Ralph P. Day
 Scott A. Deacon
 C.F.A. Carrier
 Daffyd G. Davies
 E. Esmail
 D.E. Lloyd
 Ranmali De Zoysa

Lorna A.E. McCourt
 Deidre Radstake-Mulrooney
 Dennis Sara
 Richard C. Thompson
 Fiona Turner
 P.J. Watson
 Sophie White

CORRECTION – and an apology (and another ‘plug’) from Reg Andlaw

It would have been hugely over-optimistic of me to expect that the ‘plug’ I gave my book in last year’s *Newsletter* (page 20) would have



set telephone lines to the publisher buzzing, but I must apologise to any of you who did try to buy the book through the publisher for giving the wrong telephone/fax number.

Correcting this now, however, does provide me with the opportunity to publicise the book again! It may not have made the best-sellers list, but I can safely say, without fear of contradiction, that it is a whole lot more interesting than the *Manual of Paediatric Dentistry*. The full and correct details are given below.

A Trans-Iberian Challenge – Cycling Through Spain, by Reg Andlaw, 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 640670.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 16/11/99 - 21/11/00**Income**

Subscriptions	£2,134.00
Ad. Medical Sickness Society	<u>£ 150.00</u>
	£2,284.00

Expenditure**Donations**

Dental School Library	£ 250.00
Electives	£ 750.00

Newsletter

Typing	£ 100.00
Printing	£ 318.00
Distribution	£ 184.09

Miscellaneous stationery & postage £ 45.83

Bank charges £ 104.64
£1,752.56

Excess income over expenditure £ 531.44

Bank balance at 15 November 1999 £3,220.31
At 21 November 2000 £3,751.75