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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*

With the retirement of Ken Marshall as Clinical Dean last October, his place on our committee has been taken by his successor, Gordon Gray. Ken was a staunch supporter, always providing constructive input to committee discussions, contributing interesting articles for the *Newsletter* (not necessarily by the deadline!), and leading, or making arrangements for, tours of BDH by reunion parties. Gordon Gray, who graduated in Glasgow in 1980 and came to Bristol in 1996 – he is a lecturer in restorative dentistry and Specialist in endodontics – has stepped into Ken's shoes with equal enthusiasm and has already led several reunion tours around



BDH. Clinical Deans lead busy lives (I should know – didn't I retire early?) so their active involvement is very much appreciated.

Not only has there been a new Clinical Dean on our committee, but also a new UBDSS Senior President, Dominic O'Sullivan having succeeded Chris Bell. Dominic, who graduated in Bristol in 1991, worked first in the Community Dental Service in Wales before returning to Bristol and completing a PhD in restorative dentistry. Finally, the annual change of UBDSS President has brought in James Granger. As with previous UBDSS Presidents, James was elected as a Middle Year student, scheduled to graduate in June 2003. His predecessor, Rishi Patel, expects (with some justification) to graduate this June, and we thank him for his contributions during the last 2 years.

The Committee has always striven to enrol new members, especially targeting students approaching graduation, but, despite reasonable progress using various tactics, we have never achieved 100% success. In my 'piece' last year, I predicted that Chris Stephens, whom we had co-opted, would "galvanise our committee into ever-more-effective action". Sure enough he took it upon himself to enrol the current senior year and succeeded at the end of a lecture in persuading 32 of the 37 students present to sign up on the spot (the story goes that he locked the door and let none escape without doing

so unless they had a water-tight excuse). Subsequently, seven more joined so that his grand total to date is 39 out of 50. Still not 100%, but the persistent professor is still after them! Seriously though – they are not forced to join (those who do not are permitted to graduate!) but we have always felt that an association that helps to keep them in touch with their dental school (through an annual newsletter) and that helps to support worthy causes in the school (using their modest £5 annual subscriptions) is something that deep down they would want to be part of, so a certain amount of persistence in trying to convince them of this seems justified.

One of the worthy causes we have always supported is our library. The annual University budget for the library is currently a paltry £1200, which does not go far in buying new and replacement books and paying journal subscriptions. This year we are pleased to have been able to double our last year's donation (bringing it up to nearly one-half the University contribution) thanks to the munificence of a few alumni. In particular we should like to thank Geoff van Beek (76) for an especially generous donation which will enable us to maintain a high level of support for several years. His name will be added to a donors wall plaque in the library. I need hardly say that all donations, however small, are greatly appreciated, and are acknowledged by writing the donor's name on an *ex libris* plate affixed to the inside front cover of the books purchased. Would anyone who would like to support the library in this way please send us a cheque, payable to Bristol Dental Alumni Association (address on inside front cover of this newsletter).

It is extremely gratifying to note how successful year-group reunions continue to be. I got no response to my letter in last year's University *Nonesuch* magazine in which I challenged other departments to claim greater support for their reunions – I guess it was no contest! Last year we had four, and this year (at the time of going to press) two have already been held and six more are being organised. Whilst we can derive satisfaction for having increased membership over the last 10 years from about 200 to about 600, and for having made some helpful donations, I venture to say that our greatest achievement has been the establishment of this pattern of regular, usually 5-year, reunions of each year group. Long may it continue.

I would like to thank all contributors to this issue of the *Newsletter*, and Jane Western for typing the manuscript.

## *The Dental School Year – Some Honest Impressions*

Gordon Gray, Dental Clinical Dean

Art. It's all about how you interpret it. Indeed the same could be said about the happenings in Bristol Dental School over the past



year. I'm not sure about you but on the few occasions in the past when I've tried to improve my cultural awareness by visiting an art gallery, it has not gone terribly well to say the least. While the person that I went along with is still mulling in great detail over the minute details of the second painting in the first hall, I'm usually at the end of the last room next to the coffee

shop. From this vantage point I can lick my lips at the sight of the cream cakes beautifully displayed in artistic crescents in the display cabinet. Now, the way to man's heart is definitely through his stomach but, in my case, I think matters appear to have stopped at the stomach as the latter just appears to keep expanding.

If one were to try and paint a picture conceptualising an idyllic year at the Dental School, there would probably be a lot of gentle, pastel watercolours involved and the finished canvas could well depict a sleepy hay meadow. Interesting and accurate? – I should think not! Probably as interesting as watching paint dry on that stretched canvas before you. Idyllic years seldom happen and, for the purposes of the alumni magazine, this is probably just as well. Changes happen and new styles evolve slowly. I am not talking vivid colours and wild daring art brush strokes here but the changes of leadership seen in the Dean's Office and with the Head of School.

In last year's edition, Ken Marshall so eloquently painted an evocative picture of the birth of a new Head of School and a new Dental Clinical Dean. While I cannot talk for Professor Jonathan Cowpe, who is the new Head of School, I can pen the feelings of taking over as Dean. Those feelings can be summed up in one word:

overwhelming. It is difficult to step into the shoes of someone who has done the job so well for so long and my thanks go to Ken for all his help during these early times in this office. Ken described the old timetable board with coloured pegs but, despite computerisation, I am sure that I would understand the fine detail of the complex timetables so much easier if those coloured pegs still existed. Perhaps it is me who is the square peg who has been pushed into the round hole! I have enjoyed my first few months in this new role and appreciate the paracetamol that Ken thoughtfully left in the top drawer of the desk. It has been a busy time with a new draft of the First Five Years document from the GDC to consider the effects and the changes it will make to teaching. We have also been asked to look at Outreach Teaching in the Community for our students and how we could fit this into an already bulging timetable. Soon I fear that we will need to prepare for this bulging timetable to give birth to a curriculum review – a term that strikes terror into the heart of all clinical deans.

Join me now as I open my mind (Lord, help us all!) and run a critical eye over the happenings of the past year. There has been some movement of staff during this time that began with Sarah Sheen leaving her post as Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry at the end of October 2001. Sarah still maintains a contact with us though, as she works two days a week in the Clinical Trials Unit run by Professor Martin Addy. We would all like to extend our congratulations to Sarah who married Tom Hartridge at the end of December. Tom is a Bristol graduate who is currently undertaking postgraduate training in Orthodontics. It was with great regret that we learnt recently that Dr Klaus Jandt would be leaving us to take up a chair in Biomaterials in Germany. Klaus is currently Reader in Biomaterials and has created a very strong research group at the Dental School where he has a number of postgraduate students. Some internal changes have taken place with Dr Karen Duncan, who is a lecturer in Paediatric Dentistry, taking over from Miss Susan Hooper as the admissions tutor. We wish her well with her new duties and offer thanks to Susan for all her hard work over the past five years. Helping Karen with her new role is Sue Summerill who is based in the Dean's Office - Sue may be known to many of the more recent graduates, as she worked previously in the Dental School library.

Mary Ann Cook, who was the General manager of the Dental Hospital, left us at the end of August to take over the management reins at the Cardiac Unit at Bristol Royal Infirmary, leaving us in limbo until the new General Manager took over just before Christmas.

The new GM is Carolyn Donoghue, who comes to us from a background in general nursing where she rose to position of Senior Nurse before deciding to progress to a career in hospital management. Latterly, Carolyn worked in the North Bristol Trust at Frenchay Hospital. She is keen to develop the service here at the Dental Hospital and work closely with the University Department.

There has been some re-arrangement within Prosthetic Dentistry now that Professor Alan Harrison has stepped down as Head of School. He is again taking a leading role in teaching but still retains his strong links with the GDC. David Williams has assumed responsibility for postgraduate teaching of Prosthetic Dentistry now that Adrian Watkinson has reduced his teaching commitment.

We can paint a bright and happy picture when it comes to the various achievements of members of staff and the Dental School as a whole. Andy Sprod, who works in the Division of Child Dental Health and is responsible for the teaching of Dental Public Health, was successful in obtaining an NHS Research & Development regional award to provide him with three years' support to complete a Research Training Fellowship leading to the award of a PhD. Andy will be looking at oral health measures and relating them to quality of life issues in patients with special needs. Alison Williams from the same teaching division has obtained an NHS South West Executive Career Researcher Award to provide her with five years' support to study orthodontic need, demand and service, as well as continuity of care for children born with a cleft lip and palate. We wish both of them well as they embark on this much needed area of research. Congratulations go to Alison and Dr Daryll Jagger who have both recently been appointed consultants.

The most celebrated work in our tour of the Dental School 'gallery' is that of the exhibit entitled 'RAE'. The results of the Research Assessment Exercise covering the period 1996-2000 were released on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Bristol Dental School was one of only two dental schools to achieve the highest rating of 5\*, making it the joint top research school in the UK. This is an immense achievement for our small School as it represents a considerable amount of hard work and dedication. A 5\* represents internationally outstanding research comparable to the best work in the field.

One of our students brought the BDA/Dentistry Student Clinician Prize home to Bristol last Spring. This was a first for Bristol Dental School and our congratulations go to Gordon Carey who is now in his VT year in Gloucester. He won the award for his elective

study presentation on the bond strength of composite resin to air-abraded enamel. Unfortunately for Gordon, the award that would have allowed him to travel to Kansas last October, to take part in the international finals held at the annual meeting of the American Dental Association, had to be cancelled following the atrocities in New York on September 11<sup>th</sup> last year - he had to make do with a cash alternative instead! The Dental School took part in the three minutes silence arranged to pay tribute to those who lost their lives that tragic day. Patients, students and staff stood silently in the clinics that Friday morning obviously touched by the amount of human suffering and emotion shown during that fateful week. Another first for the Dental School was a visit from the President of the General Dental Council, Professor Nairn Wilson, who came to talk to staff and students about the changes to the GDC. All enjoyed a splendid and informative talk by the President who painted a bright and vivid picture of the future of the GDC.

Angela Nobbs, a PhD student in the Oral Microbiology Unit, won the Unilever poster prize at the BSDR meeting in Belfast for her presentation on oral streptococcal interactions with epithelial cells. This award entitles Angela to attend the IADR general session in San Diego in March 2002 and to present her work as a contestant for the Hatton Award. It is not surprising that Bristol realised its excellent result in the RAE exercise with all this good work going on.

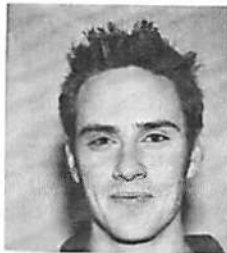
One can lavish great fortunes on simple art and equally in the simple art of refurbishment. The next project following close on the heels of the new radiology department, is that of refurbishment of the ancient phantom head laboratory that has remained unchanged for far too many years and is now sadly looking and feeling its age. It is said that Professor Elderton once took all of those black phantom heads home and made remedial repairs with glass fibre in his garage. What was wrong with methacrylate resin - that is what I would like to know! Spiraling costs may make this project well out of our budget for the next few years but I suppose if we are worried about the cost we could always rob an art gallery to help fund the project.

Our tour at the art gallery is almost at an end, so it's time to return to those duties that keep me occupied way beyond what I could ever have imagined but a short year ago. It seems only yesterday that I was a mere dental student in that cold and dark city of Glasgow.....

## *The Students' Year*

James Granger, UBDSS President.

When I took on the role of Student President I was blissfully unaware that I had to write a review of the year. However I shall endeavour to give you as full an account as I can of the goings on at the BDH through the eyes of the students.



As is customary and deserving I shall begin by congratulating last year's committee for their superb work, and hope we can continue where they left off.

The year began quietly due to the absence of the S year, who were still frolicking in 'foreign parts' on their electives. Regardless, the J and M year managed to keep the Hathorn Bar ticking over. The first social of the year was the much awaited welcome party for the first years. This year a club was hired on Park Street, and nearly all students were accountable. The older years seemed very interested in some of the fresh-faced new intake! The night was an obvious success since some of those new faces make the trip down to the bar regularly, which makes a welcome change.

Throughout the autumn term a week didn't seem to pass without some form of function in the Common Room. Events ranged from the annual Halloween Party to fund raising for this year's ski trip. Thanks should go to Jahrad Haq and Chris Woods for their sterling work in running the bar.

For many not even the Christmas break was a time to relax, as 50 dental students, combined with 100 medics and vets from Bristol, descended upon Val Thorens for the ski trip. It was the same resort as the previous Easter; quite surprising they let us back!

We were quickly back in the swing of things after Christmas, some more refreshed than others. The Dental Ball seemed to creep up on everyone this year due to the short nature of the Easter term. This year the venue was the Ramada Plaza Hotel near Temple Meads. It was one of the best attended and smoothly organised balls I've been to in all my years. Credit must go to the organisers, of which Hannah Fielding and Owen Jenkins should receive the lions share!

It was only a two-week break till the legendary dental revue, which was received superbly. This is testimony to the long nights



spent writing and rehearsing, not to mention the immense talent the M year are blessed with. This year the boundaries were really pushed, as both our acting and singing were live. Needless to say everyone is still on the course, not having had any record contract offers...well not yet anyway! Special thanks to all involved, especially James Macdonald and Nicola Trundle who ate and slept the revue for months.

Student life remains ever vibrant. As I close, the events we have to look forward to include a mixed inter-year netball tournament (yes, boys in short skirts!) and the annual BDSA conference in Newcastle, but I am sure you will hear all about this next year.

### **ADDRESSES WANTED**

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

N. Hallatt  
 A. Hattan  
 S.J. Jeffrey  
 I.S. Lowe  
 Gregory Peake  
 N.E. Preston  
 K.P. Seaman  
 J.H.R. Thackeray  
 Helen Walters  
 L. Ward  
 Danyel L. Yates

*We would also be very grateful to be informed of any changes of address.*

## STUDENT ELECTIVES

### California Dreaming

Rishi and Neel Patel



The basis for our elective was formulated on a gloomy October morning in Bristol. As is common-place, I had an A.N.K. on Adult Clinic 2 and, being the diligent (!) student I am, I headed directly for the library. Whilst casually flicking through an orthodontic journal a glossy double-page spread caught my eye – “Straighten Your Teeth Without Braces” beamed the headline. Further investigation would reveal the new modality that is ‘Invisalign’ and following some consultation with Professor Stephens a project was born. Over the next few weeks and numerous trans-atlantic e-mails later we had unearthed enough practitioners using ‘invisible orthodontics’ for our elective to come to fruition.

Our project led us first of all to the busling ‘megapolis’ that is Los Angeles and almost from the outset we were exposed to a brand of dentistry we had never seen. Our first practice was reminiscent of our own ortho. clinics, with the students replaced by nurses and a patient replaced, seemingly, every 2-3 minutes. Los Angeles was to be our base for the first 3 weeks; from there we were able to take weekends away in Las Vegas and San Diego. Vegas certainly proved to be somewhat of an eye-opener; it is certainly like no other place on Earth – a sprawling mass of neon in the centre of the desert where pure hedonism is blended with family fun! San Diego was quite a contrast, but no less enjoyable with our time spent between sight-seeing and surfing.

The next stop on our travels was the town of San Mateo, just north of Silicon Valley, where Align Technologies, the power behind ‘Invisalign’, have made their home. On our guided tour of their site the almost mind-boggling technology could be seen first hand, and almost as incomprehensible was the notion that, due to costs, manufacturing is carried out between two sites, one in Mexico, the other in Pakistan.

From here our next stop was the University of Pacific, in the heart of San Francisco, and the opportunity to visit Dr Robert Boyd and his 'think tank' as they attempted to use 'Invisalign' on extraction cases. Whilst in San Francisco we took the opportunity to marvel at the endless tourist spots, although we were regrettably informed that tours for Alcatraz were booked for the next 6 weeks (any fellow visitors take note, especially as prior bookings can be made over the Internet). With the research element of our elective nearing a close we could now look forward to the travelling.

From San Francisco we headed back for LA, following advice to take the Pacific Coast Highway. It was certainly advice well heeded. The views along the coast were at times breathtaking, but for a golf fan like myself the highlight had to be walking the hallowed turf of The Pebble Beach Links; sadly at \$400 a round it exceeded my budget.

We felt that all our previous hard work had certainly warranted our next destination, two weeks in the Hawaiian Islands, with our time equally spent between the islands of Oahu and Maui. It was certainly an incredible place. Just some of the highlights included surfing on Waikiki Beach, learning to scuba dive (and not coming across any tiger sharks) and mountain biking down a volcano.

Our elective was now drawing to a close; our final destination was, in view of recent history, to prove most poignant. The last week of our elective was spent in New York City, a place that only ten days after we left was to be rocked by the atrocities on September the 11<sup>th</sup>. It is sad to think that in many ways it will not be quite the same again. By the end, we looked every bit the weary travellers we were. We were in some ways ready to come home, but it had been an unforgettable summer, certainly one we both readily re-live.

## **Australia, New Zealand and Thailand**

Ishita Doshi and Gordon Black



We carried out our project in Westmead Hospital in Sydney, investigating the success of pulpotomies carried out on deciduous molars by dental therapists under local anaesthetic (LA) and hospital staff under general anaesthesia (GA). This was a retrospective study

using information from patients' notes. Our results showed that formocresol pulpotomies had high success rates, with those carried out under GA having a slightly higher success rate than those under LA.

The Head of the Paediatric Department, Prof. Widmer, was very helpful throughout our stay and organised various clinics for us to observe during time not spent on our project.

During our stay in Sydney, one of the highlights was climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge, which gave fantastic views of the city. Unfortunately, it also gave us fantastic views of an approaching thunder storm which we eventually got caught in the middle of! We also went to Manly and Bondi Beach and to a performance in the Opera House.

After our time in Sydney, we travelled up the east coast of Australia on the 'Oz Experience' coach making various stops along the way. We learnt to surf in Byron Bay and did a 4WD tour of Fraser Island, which is the largest sand island in the world. A little further up the coast, we went on a 3-day sailing cruise around the Whitsunday Islands. We relaxed on the deck of the yacht in the sunshine, occasionally diving into the water to snorkel and cool off. Our last stop in Australia was Cairns, where we completed the open water scuba diving course on the Great Barrier Reef. This was an amazing experience, swimming with various fish and turtles and surrounded by beautiful corals. While in Cairns we also did a 50-metre bungy jump!

Our next stop was New Zealand where we travelled around the South Island on another coach. The scenery was fantastic along the coast and there were plenty of adrenaline-packed activities to keep us occupied! We went white-water rafting, skiing, and skydiving from 12000 feet! We also climbed the Franz Josef glacier and went on a boat trip to see 12m sperm whales and dolphins.

Leaving the winter behind in New Zealand our next stop was Thailand. We spent a few hectic days in Bangkok where we visited Buddha temples and strolled around the night markets. Next we travelled up north to the city of Chiang Mai. Here we did a 3-day jungle trek climbing mountains and swimming under waterfalls. We camped in bamboo huts in local villages, which was a very cultural experience. We finished our holiday on the southern island of Ko Phi Phi, where we relaxed on the white sandy beaches before returning for our final year at dental school in Bristol.

We would like to thank the Bristol Dental Alumni Association for their generous sponsorship which helped us to have a holiday of a lifetime.

## **Impressions of Peru and Bolivia**

Tim Harris, Oliver Bowyer and Maree Lawson



With a limited knowledge of travelling in the developing world, the chance to explore part of the South American continent presented a wonderful opportunity to experience different cultures and traditions. The initial purpose of our travels was to enjoy outdoor pursuits in Canada, but the late change of plan presented an opportunity to visit an area of the world we may never get the chance to see in the future. Peru itself is steeped in traditions dating back to Incan times and the Spanish invasion, which have provided so much history and culture all set in the dramatic backdrop of the Andes.

Lima itself is a typical developing-world capital city, which is constantly expanding and developing, with the contrasts between rich and poor becoming more apparent by the day. Before arriving in Peru, the advice we were given was to spend as little time as possible in Lima and move south down the coast, although after only a few days it provided an insight into a different, yet fascinating way of life, with traders offering everything under the sun and little restaurants offering three-course lunches for less than £1 - but you are never quite sure what exactly you are ordering, or getting!

The most frightening experiences of the whole trip occurred in the first week on the public transport south of Lima. The 'highway code' doesn't exist, nor does stopping at red lights because, apparently, it is too dangerous to stop due to the risk of attack. You do, however, fear for your life every time you get into a taxi or bus.

The first port of call for tourists travelling south is the small town of Pisco. Home of the infamous 'Pisco Sour' drink, a lethal combination of alcohol, egg white, lemon juice and sugar, it is also home to a vast array of wildlife. Seals, flamingos and penguins are

common, together with various species of bird. The area is now a 'Wildlife Zone', with tourist money being used to ensure continued protection for the animals. This provided the chance to see wildlife in their natural habitat that you would only normally get to see in a zoo or wildlife centre in the UK.

Arequipa is the second largest city in Peru and prior to our arrival had been struck by an earthquake measuring 8.7 on the Richter scale. This had devastated the central 'Plaza de Armas', or centre square. These squares are present in all the major towns and cities and provide a meeting point for the local community to eat, drink and socialise. The effects of the earthquake on the citizens of Arequipa could be sensed by locals in the square, where there were feelings of apprehension and uncertainty as to what lay in store next. Some of the locals believe that the earthquake was a warning to the people of Arequipa to show respect to the surrounding mountains. Two large snow-capped peaks shadow the city and are said to protect it from harm. Throughout Peru the people who live off the land have to show respect to 'Mother Earth' and failure to do so, they believe, will bring revenge in the form of natural disasters or harsh weather conditions.

The next stop on our journey was a rise in altitude from approximately 2,500 metres to Cusco at 3,000 metres - Cusco in Incan times was the central city and the homeland of the Inca tribe. The traditions of Incan people are still followed religiously by the inhabitants of Cusco. Around the city there are numerous shrines, temples and Inca ruins that are open to the public to explore. It is most renowned, however, as the start point of the trek to Macchu Picchu, known as the Inca Trail. This trail covers 33km through breathtaking scenery and ranges in height from 2000m to 4300m. A four-day trek encompasses numerous small ruins and the guides give detailed information of how the Spanish/Incan war was fought, and history on how the landscape changed as a result. Day 4 starts at 4am to enable you to see the sun rise over Macchu Picchu down in the valley from a lofty point above. Cold, tired, hungry and in need of a shower and clean clothes, the view at 7am as the cloud lifts and the realisation of 4 days of walking becomes uncovered, is incredible and can only be partly captured on film. Although the Inca Trail has lost some of its originality due to the boom in tourism, it is still a hugely rewarding and fulfilling experience that we would recommend to anyone. You finish with emotions of exhaustion and elation.

Cusco also is the gateway to the rainforest in the Amazon Basin. The Manu National reserve is split into a Cultural and a

Reserve zone, whereby access to the reserve zone is by a 2-day boat journey which provides a unique opportunity to see wildlife in their own habitat and some beautiful scenery. White-water rafting, jungle trekking and walking provided an ideal chance to release some adrenaline.

South of Cusco and bordering Bolivia is Lake Titicaca, the world's largest lake over 2000m. Vast in size, it is home to numerous communities that inhabit its islands. A number of these islands are floating reed-made islands that can drift around the lake. With the help of tourism the inhabitants have benefited from technology in the developed world by using solar panels to heat their homes at night, when the temperature can drop well below zero. Some also run televisions from the panels, which, considering the environment, appeared slightly surreal. Despite this, they live in a community of self-sufficiency where everything they need they get from the lake and the shores, and they live a basic but happy life, especially the children. It is obvious that tourism is giving the families a chance to experience a different way of life, although this is not necessarily beneficial to them. The children are used as bait to plead for money, and you feel that without tourism these same children would continue the traditional up-bringing that previous generations have developed.

Bolivia, not originally part of our plans, was where we spent the last two weeks of our trip, in the highest capital city in the world, La Paz, and the salt plains in the south of the country. Throughout Peru and Bolivia we were amazed by the warm and welcoming nature of the local people. Just as keen to learn from us and we from them, the whole trip was an educational experience in language, culture, history and traditions. There are many things to thank the 'Western World' for, in terms of development in technology etc, but it has contributed to a decline in the self-sufficiency that makes some of the people and places we visited so fascinating and interesting. It would be sacrilege for these traditions to be lost forever and we are so glad that we took the opportunity to experience a few of them before they become lost.

## **ALUMNI REUNIONS**

### **1966 REUNION (THE 66 SOCIETY), DECEMBER 2001**

The 66 Society has met on each anniversary of the 1966 Final Year Dinner. The reunion is a dinner held at Foster Rooms, Small Street, Bristol on the first Saturday of December. Last year it celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Society flourishes due to the enthusiasm and sociability of the students and friends of the 1966 year. The enthusiasm is focused in a small group, 'The Committee', who meet in convivial surroundings at least twice a year to discuss the arrangements for the next reunion. The Committee is composed of Judy Pearce (née King), Mike Goldring, Dave Hawkesby-Mullins, Ian Smith, John Rees and Bob Binnersley.

The Society met twice a year for the first ten years, the main meeting in December and a secondary meeting in the summer. So far, forty-five meetings have been held! Rugby and cricket matches were arranged for members before sloth and lethargy (or is it gout and arthritis?) took over. One member, Dave Hawkesby-Mullins, was dropped for misunderstanding the term flannels, as items of dress, in a cricket match.

Members have returned to Bristol from far and wide to attend reunions. Lola Pearson, (née Borkowska) from Saudi, Jim Cameron from Canada, Martin Betts from Richmond, USA, Ray Hackemann from Germany.

Members of staff have attended and been guests of honour at meetings. Professor Graham Charlton spoke at the Silver Anniversary, when a large gathering of technicians and nurses from the Dental Hospital also attended. Professor Bradford and Dr Hunt, pathologist, have favoured members with visits. Most recently, Dr Reg Andlaw, Chairman of the Bristol Dental Alumni, attended the 35<sup>th</sup> Reunion with his wife and entertained the assembled members with an excellent after-dinner speech.

Anyone who has lost touch with the 66 group and would like to get in contact with a member, please contact Bob Binnersley at 4 Wye View Villas, Wye Street, Hereford, HR2 7RA, Tel: 01432 344514 or E-mail: [Bobwbin@cs.com](mailto:Bobwbin@cs.com)

**Bob Binnersley**





*The whole 66 Society party including partners and guests (minus photographer Mike Goldring).*



*Standing: Bob Binnersley, Martin Ellyatt (at back), Ian Smith, Lindsay Pinson, Lola Pearson (née Borkowska) Martin Betts (at back), James Cameron, Bob Izon, John Lucia. Sitting: Mike Goldring, Christine Lucia (née Rosser), Judy Pearce (née King.)*



*Reg Andlaw presenting a special 'Exam Award' to Lola Pearson, with Trevor Thomas (left), Tim Pearce (right) and Jan Betts (foreground).*



*Bob Binnersley in full flow*

## 1969 REUNION, FEBRUARY 2002

*It is often difficult enough to extract a report about a reunion, but this time two were received. The following is a combination of the two – with the approval of John and Roger. Who can spot the joins? (Ed.)*

“You must come to Barbados....” Ronnie Ramsay first gave this invitation in 1969, when we all qualified. Thirty years later he came back to Bristol to issue it again – and this time we are able to take him up on his offer. “We have an international winter dental conference – please come, there’s lots to do”, which is why 22 of us were at Gatwick in February 2002 boarding a Virgin Atlantic flight for Bridgetown and searching for familiar faces amongst the half-term holiday crowds. Some of us had already made it to Barbados in the intervening years, notably Neil Spaven, who took on the job, with Roger Hartley, of arranging our travel. He also became unofficial tour guide, another job he hadn’t bargained for! Others who attended were Pam Allaway, Terry Boyd, Rob Evans, John Green, Paul Hughes, Dennis Hutchinson, John Lover, Mike Whitehouse and Graham Wickens.



*The class of '69 – Terry Boyd, Graham Wickens, Pam Allaway, Neil Spaven (at back), Ronnie Ramsay, Roger Hartley, John Green, Paul Hughes, Dennis Hutchinson, Rob Evans.*

The winter conference attracts dentists from North America as well as the West Indies and UK. At the Convention Opening Ceremony

and Welcome Dinner, we were pleased to be present as Dr Ramsay received the Bbs.D.A. NLG Hope Award for Service to Dentistry in Barbados. His acceptance speech was received with a notable lack of heckling, all things being considered, what with the rum and all. Our party managed to be present at most of the sessions during the week but the lure of the beach, pool and rum punch at the pool bar proved irresistible to many of us and our partners. However, what with the conference social programme and events arranged by Ronnie and Marlene, his wife, we were kept very busy during the week. These events involved eating and drinking, mostly in the form of lavish Caribbean buffets and copious amounts of rum punch which went down well with everyone. In the interests of research we also visited the Mount Gay Rum distillery. Our host for lunch was the Barbados barman of the year who managed to combine rum with almost everything, short of mouthwash.

One notable lunch was at Mullins Bay in a beach restaurant straight out of the glossy magazines. This is in the heart of the Platinum Coast where platinum refers to the colour of the visitors' credit cards. During the week our coach drivers vied with each other as to the cost of a room at the Sandy Lane Hotel. At one point we got to 10,000 US dollars – it turned out to be 1,000 US dollars. Weston Super Mare, it is not. Champagne was provided, as a change from rum punch, and we sat in the restaurant garden watching humming birds amongst the garden flowers. Many of the plants and shrubs seemed familiar – not surprising as they are tender houseplants back in the U.K. After lunch Mike Whitehouse provided the cabaret with a demonstration of mooning on water skis, with the inevitable result.

The dental highlight of the week was a visit to Ronnie's specialist orthodontic practice. Ronnie is the only full-time orthodontist on the island and has created a superb practice in Bridgetown with a dental team that was the envy of us all. The team included three operating orthodontic auxiliaries, a treatment co-ordinator and a dental technician. The walls of the main treatment room were lined floor to ceiling with glass cabinets containing current orthodontic models – very impressive to us dentists but somewhat ghoulish for our partners.

For a week we lived the life of which Reilly could scarcely have dreamed. Ronnie's hospitality knew no bounds, whether organising visits to his office, a Land-Rover safari around the island or hosting an all-comers 'Lime' at their imposing home for the Convention visitors. Marlene is from South America and they built

their house 10 years ago in the hacienda style with a deep veranda all around the house, which was semi-open plan – making it very cool and the ideal place for a party. It looks like it has been there forever, especially with the magnificent gardens which extend for 4 acres around the house. Marlene is a very keen gardener and this was very evident. At this time of year there was bougainvillea in every possible shade in full flower, which looked quite stunning. We were entertained by a local Tuck band – a bit like a skiffle group with a pantomime dame – but there the resemblance ended. What ‘Mother Sally’ did with her enormous assets is best left to the imagination. Those alumni blessed with total recall may realise that four out of five members of the Hunter-Schreger Band were in the party. If you still possess a copy of the 1967 LP, get it out and play it again. Be thankful that our Reunion Tour (T-shirts available) did not involve a single gig.

Ronnie provided the last day together for all of us. It was an off-road tour of the island in open-backed Landrovers. The star of the day was Cassius, one of the driver/guides. Some of us had seen him earlier in the week at a tropical spectacular when he was doing his fire-eating act. Those of us ‘lucky’ enough to be in his Landrover spent most of the day laughing – with a constant stream of corny jokes and dry humour. His pet monkey travelled on the wing mirror and caused a lot of interest. Cassius’s talents have been recognised by the Barbados Prime Minister with an award for his work as a tourism ambassador for the island. He started life as an orphan wharf boy, living around the docks in Bridgetown, subsequently becoming a boxer and now a tour guide and cabaret artist. His other role, as we discovered, is to test Landrovers to destruction – preferably when full of passengers. Cassius seems to know everyone and, when asked if he did, his reply was that he knows quite a lot of people and all the rest know him – which was true because everywhere we went people waved at him – a bit like travelling with Royalty.

The next day we split into two groups: those returning to the UK and those going on for a week sailing with Ronnie and Marlene. *Roger Hartley was in the latter group.* We flew to St. Vincent in one of those proper aeroplanes with propellers. At least the pilot could fold the wheels away - I hate it when you can see that the tyres are bald. Sailing aboard two catamarans and a yacht, the party was transported to Mustique, the Tobago Cays and a host of beautiful islands in the chain. Becoming jaded with the rum punches, I

developed a fixation on the perfect frozen daiquiri. More research needed, I feel. Urgently.

Our thanks to Ronnie and Marlene for giving us such a wonderful time and for encouraging us to go. What many of us hadn't realised or perhaps had forgotten was that when Ronnie came to Bristol to read dentistry he stayed for six years and was not able to go home. Having seen his island and met the people, we can now see how doubly difficult that must have been. I am sure it won't be the last time that we see Barbados – and we won't be able to wait thirty years before we do it again.

John Green and Roger Hartley

#### 1976 (ROOT '76) REUNION, NOVEMBER 2001

I remember, deep in the mists of time, the start of a new term, probably in the autumn of 1973, moving to the Dental Hospital after the pre-clinical year. As a year we were about to start Op Tech, getting to grips with tooth preparation and wondering who these vaguely familiar people in our year were. Certainly, in 2<sup>nd</sup> BDS, there was no-one with short hair, sober clothing (including a tie!) and a basic understanding of spoken English. Surely Alan Canty was a big, hairy bloke, clad entirely in denim, not this suave sophisticated chap destined for practice. Indeed, as we looked forward to our first taste of clinical dentistry, a senior lecturer made a most significant statement to the remaining year. He said "whether you like it or not, you are now going to be dentists". A cold chill ran round the room but, as promised, a little over three years later we were, and, 25 years on, some of us still are.

So it was that a quarter of a century on the year of '76 began to muster. Of course it would be over-optimistic to get all post-grads to attend, and in the end 32 made it to some part of the weekend which began with a good old chin-wag, on Friday night, over traditional Italian cuisine (just like Mama used to make) at Marco's, Baldwin Street. Paul Baines treats the owner and many of the staff so it was reassuring that, as far as I know, none of them was interested in getting their own back. Mind you, the coffee was very frothy! Internationally, Anne Muirhead (née Keep) flew in from British Columbia (on the basis that if she hadn't we'd have talked about her) and Geoff (Downer) van Beek made the journey from Holland. Paul

Davies island-hopped from Jersey and Slobby Ollie (née Thompson) journeyed from Devon especially for the evening. Twenty three carafes of wine later we wended our way home with the promise of more excitement to come.

It has become something of a tradition for Root '76 reunions to include short presentations by delegates on Saturday mornings. This year's were quite excellent and were prefaced by Paul Baines's display of spot-the-student using 'PowerPoint' to show a negative of our original mug-shots and then the real thing. The big hairy bloke clad entirely in denim was a dead give-away! Steve White began the proceedings with a satirical critique of how government has treated the GDP over the last 25 years. Neil McDonald entertained us with his missionary work in Nepal. David Hardy provided a view of what it was like to be taken over by a 'Corporate Body', a subject that produced considerable discussion afterwards. Entertaining as always, Hugh Devlin's text dealt with the interesting subject of George Washington's teeth, and our Transcultural Attaché, Prof. (at least someone in our year achieved high office) Raman Bedi dealt with the changing ideology of dental health in the impoverished parts of the world, which included many out-of-focus slides of his children; presumably they move so fast they're difficult to capture on film. The morning was finished by Geoff van Beek with a romp through a pot-pourri of his slides accompanied by an eclectic mix of music.



*Phil Key (keeping the wine bucket close at hand)*

This was my first experience of the Marriott Royal (née Swallow Royal) Hotel and I was pleasantly surprised. Prior to dinner we had arranged a champagne reception in the drawing room; this, I always think, provides the best opportunity to take stock of individuals. How have they fared over the last 5 or 10 years? Pete Sawyer looked very Dickensian, Jane Wood looked very delicious and Bertie looks exactly the same now as he did in 1976 (which must be disappointing). It was my first chance to see Sophie Rudge (née Hepenstal) since qualifying. Sophie had travelled from Chester to York and then on to Bristol that day and arrived at the hotel just in time to join us as we went up to dinner.

It was fitting that, prior to our meal, we stood in contemplative silence in the memory of Maria Chambers who had sadly died shortly after our last reunion. My thanks to John Riley for his kind words during 'grace'.

Replete after an excellent meal the evening was further enhanced by toasts from Paul Baines and Professor Chris Stephens who, with his wife Marion, were our guests for the evening. It is rare for reunion dinners to spring significant surprises (perhaps Duncan Lamond singing 'I did it my way' is one) but here was a reunion dinner with something totally unexpected: Chris produced our results from final fives! Now two things come immediately to mind: 1. Why would anyone want to keep a record of my exam results for twenty five years, and 2. Come on, what did I get?



*Examining 'final fives' results*

Actually, it wasn't quite like that as most people feigned disinterest to begin with on the grounds that we had all lived in hope that we had just missed a distinction by a few marks and now we'd find out the truth. Curiosity of course got the better of us and within a matter of minutes the results were being closely scrutinised (maybe to ensure that the marks had been added up correctly). Now, if any other year should be made party to these important secrets, don't get too excited, there seemed to be some pretty contrived results!

With the formalities over the evening finished with many a reminiscence and general assertions that we would do it all again in five years' time, just to see who was still practising dentistry.

Thanks should be expressed to Diana Stubbley who encouraged those graduates who wavered over their attendance (and made rude remarks about those who didn't reply). Also to Paul Baines who managed the technical part of the week-end, made an excellent speech and turned up to breakfast at the hotel to ensure that everyone departed safely.

Philip Key

## 1981 REUNION, NOVEMBER 2001

The Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel was the venue on the evening of November 17<sup>th</sup> for the year of 81's first reunion for 10 years. We had a good turn-out with 30 of the year attending and 47 in total, including partners.

Earlier in the day we had a tour of the Dental Hospital ably led by Ken Marshall. For many it was the first time back for twenty years and the changes in that time have been quite dramatic. It was commented, however, that one thing hadn't changed; there were still no patients in the building (OK, it was Saturday afternoon). The security arrangements were equally impressive, and it still remains a mystery how latecomer Allen Roberts managed to beat the network of alarms and locked doors to meet us on the Cons. Floor (did he really scale the outside of the building as was suggested?).

Back to the evening, and the entertainment started early with a fireworks display over the docks and live music provided by the latest boy band sensation, Blue, on arrival at the hotel. Obviously no expense spared for the Year of '81, you are thinking, but the truth had more to do with the switching-on-of-the-Christmas-lights event



happening at the same time outside the hotel. Pre-dinner drinks were served in the Drawing Room and, after a few awkward moments and whisperings of 'who's the fat guy with no hair over there', we all managed to put faces to names and things became more relaxed.

Upstairs for the meal and as the wine flowed the volume rose. Between courses there was a lot of getting up and mingling, an indication that everybody was keen to catch up on all the news (either that or they were bored with the company next to them). Much mirth was to be had with the display of the original Op. Tech. mugshots. Stuart Lawson was considered the least changed of all (then he did look forty 20 years ago), and Tidu Mankoo's photo held a remarkable resemblance to a certain international terrorist. The hotel did us proud with the food, although Andy Whimpany did complain that he saw his rack of lamb limping to the table.

After the meal, Kevin Allen proposed a toast to absent friends, and yours truly read out a few letters from those who couldn't make it and then mumbled something incomprehensible about crystal ball gazing twenty years ago. I don't remember whether the music was turned up during my speech or if it was turned up later, but there then followed an impromptu disco in full 'Friday night student common room' style. Master mixer DJ Gordi Gord provided a great set with the highlight being the Gross Club hits remix, which even had the original band members Adrian Smith and Nick Wright up on the dance floor. The third member of the band, Bijan Darabi, contrary to reports, is still alive in body at least, but could not make the trip down – shame on you Bijan. The revelry continued in the residents' bar well into the wee small hours until it was finally time to try and remember which rooms we were all staying in.



*Three happy ladies – Judith Gamblin (née Richards), Kay Shovlin (née Sutcliffe) and Diane Martin (née Fielding).*

A good time was had by all and it was particularly noticeable that the members of the year who were considered to be some of the quieter ones twenty years ago were the ones making the most of the evening (no names – you know who you are). Making up for lost time perhaps? Who cares, well done I say. Many had travelled long distances but special mention must go to Kevin Hardwick for leaving his snowy retreat in the French Alps and Nick Wright for leaving his parrot in Northern Ireland.



*The class of '81, with guest of honour Ken Marshall.*

With clinical governance uppermost in our minds, a small peer review group was held over breakfast the next morning. It was generally agreed that the evening had been a success and that five years would be a good time span until the next one (do I get my money now?). We will be rounding you all up again in 2006 and, hopefully, a few of the faces we didn't see this year will be able to make it next time – a good time is guaranteed.

Finally, a word of advice for anyone organising their year reunion. Don't rely on the addresses provided by the University Alumni office as many of them are sadly out of date. It is better to use these as a starting point and cross check with the GDC website for up-to-date contacts.

Gordon Shovlin

## 1985/86 REUNION, MARCH 2002

The weekend of Friday 8<sup>th</sup>/Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2002 saw the joint reunion of the two graduating years 1985/86 at the Marriott Royal Hotel in Bristol. For those with a strong liver the fun started on the Friday night in the Hathorn bar at BDH. All the usual suspects were present, including Tom Coldicott who has finally given up the cut and thrust of dentistry for the mundane world of the international airline pilot. Flying for the Sultan of Brunei can be so boring. We were all made to feel very welcome by the current generation of student bar staff who were happy to smile gently at we poor old fools as we reminisced about the good old days: "blah, blah, blah, fourteen pints and a curry blah, blah, blah stripped naked on the pool table blah, blah, blah, with a melon!" The whole party then moved to Clifton where the evening was rounded off nicely by a curry for fourteen. It would have been fifteen but for the fact that one member of the party was so overcome with emotion that he only lasted as far as the poppodomms before leaving his mark on the gents toilet and making a dash for freedom through the kitchen.

The tour of the hospital on the Saturday morning was well attended and all were amazed at the clean, modern surroundings and equipment. It was interesting, though, that the atmosphere remains eerily familiar, and the sense of humour of certain members of the party worryingly schoolboy-like – who would have thought that the new and rather more anatomically correct phantom heads could cause so much hilarity!

The final event of the weekend was the dinner on the Saturday night followed by an 80's theme disco complete with dry ice. The King's Suite at the Marriott was an excellent venue for the one hundred people who turned out, though the pavé of beef was somewhat disappointing – had Pat Daly worn through the soles of his shoes with the tremendous display of traditional Welsh dancing he gave then it would have easily been up to the task of replacing them. The last person left the bar at 4.30am, much to the barman's relief.

The whole weekend seemed to go very well, with most people glad they had made the effort to attend. For those in year '86 the yearbook update put together by Mark Ward will be a welcome addition to their bookcase and an incentive to remain in touch, thereby making the job of organiser of the next bash that much easier. Who knows, by then some of us may have started to look older!

Jon Moore

## 1996 REUNION, NOVEMBER 2001

On Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2001 our 5-year reunion finally happened, slightly later than planned, but well worth the wait. The venue chosen was Redwood Lodge Hotel. For most of us this was a place of fond memories, as this was the setting for our final year dinner. Having booked it and paid the deposit, I was to find out that the last final year dinner held there had an awful meal. Fortunately, I was later reassured that the chef had been replaced due to a number of complaints. Francis and I sent out the invites and waited for the response – and waited – the final number being determined only one week before, which totalled 42 with partners.

On the day of the reunion people arrived slowly but surely. Interestingly, most people seemed to have a distinctive attraction for the bar, some not even checking into their rooms first. The meal seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to Riz Parbatani, a good friend and colleague of mine and Francis's who agreed to be the DJ that evening, there were enough funds to provide ample amounts of wine to wash it down with, the consequences of which were seen later in the evening for some. With some now married and with kids, no longer could you hear talk of comparing the specs of the latest car or stereo. Time had moved on – we were now into the baby monitor era, with a couple of them being seen on tables, though I'm not sure how effective they were with the amount of noise coming from each table. Francis gave an after-dinner speech which was as entertaining as always – that I do remember – but the details of the speech are not so clear.

With the meal over, Riz set up his decks and the party was in full swing. For most people in our year it had been 4 or 5 years since their last meeting, so it was not surprising to see most people colluding in groups around the function room bar. Very few people did dance that night as they were so busy consuming copious amounts of alcohol and catching up on what others had been doing for the last five years. The function room closed at 1am, but for many it did not end there. The main bar was open and the hardcore of the year continued. One member (you know who you are and so do we) was keen to demonstrate one of his favourite pastimes: horticulture. Although we were aware of this interest of his as students, we didn't know he had moved into water features!

I'm not sure how many people made breakfast..... because I didn't. At departure time there were a lot of green-looking faces,

though everyone was discussing how it had been a great night and well worth the effort. Roll on the 10-year reunion.

Liam Addy

## *ALUMNI NEWS*

*Please send us snippets of news about yourself for inclusion in our next Newsletter – for example family news, recent achievements and activities – either by post or E-mail to the addresses given on the inside front cover of this Newsletter.*

**1966**

*I was honoured to be guest of honour at the 1966 reunion on 1<sup>st</sup> December and tried the Stephens method of extracting information from alumni present – see under 1976 year. I was much less successful than he was! (Ed.)*

**Martin Betts** who had to abandon the dental course because of poor eyesight, subsequently graduated in medicine and now works in the Sleep Disorder Centre in Richmond, Virginia, USA. **John Lucla** claimed that his current activities/recent achievements were “absolutely nothing” (*what a modest chap!*) but it is known that he continues as DRO and in various musical groups in Bristol. **Ian Smith** is President of the GDPA and last year sold his practice to Oasis.

**1967**

**James Cameron** attended the 1966 reunion, flying in from Vancouver where he has lived for about 30 years. He recently enjoyed a holiday in Mongolia, of all places.

**1968**

**Robert Gould** also attended the 1966 reunion. He is in practice in Hereford and noted that his only current activity was being “a social climber” (*being allowed to attend the '66 Club reunion no doubt is an example of this*).

1969

**John Green** has moved from Lincolnshire to Sheffield, where he was appointed Director of Dental Public Health in July last year. He is Treasurer of the British Association for the Study of Community Dentistry and is closely involved with the organisation 'Sustain' that strives to counteract the advertising of junk food for children.

1976

*Professor Chris Stephens, who was guest of honour at the 1976 reunion, not only came up with the brilliant idea of presenting those present with slips of paper on which to write a few words about their recent activities etc, but also managed to persuade some of them to use the paper for that purpose. The following is a compilation of the notes (those that were legible!) (Ed.)*

**Paul Davies** celebrated his silver wedding anniversary with his wife Jill last year. Their son graduated with a 2:1 in Law at Exeter and their daughter is training to be a commercial pilot. He looks forward to getting his golf handicap into single figures, retirement and - yes - a world tour. **Hught Devlin** has finally learned to swim and also looks forward to retirement. **Peter Duke** is now working part time, has reduced his golf handicap (*present level not admitted*) and - you've guessed it - looks forward to his retirement. **Claire Foster** was appointed (*last year?*) Clinical Director of the Community Dental Service and looks forward to future developments in NHS dentistry, and to more holidays. **David Hardy** has sold his practice to Oasis and is reducing his workload so as to spend more time on leisure pursuits. He has qualified as a scuba diver. **Bertie Jukes** has run a successful practice in Majorca, where he was included in the British Consul's guest list, but has now retired. His wish to see England winning a grand slam has again been dashed this year. **Nell McDonald** was happy to find that the UK still accepts him after returning from 10 years in Nepal. He looks forward to delivering four children into university education and working to pay the bills. **Anne Muirhead** (*neé Keep*) lives in Prince George, Canada, and has survived so far with no grey hairs, but looks forward to the kids leaving home. **David Reekle** was 'Dentist of the Year' in 1999. **Pat Riley** (*neé Harbourn*) still works full time, surviving as a 100% NHS practice. **Carol Robinson** was awarded a DPDS last year and (*just as commendable*) is the Brown Owl of Dartington Brownies. She looks forward to their

three girls doing well at school and university and, of course, to the next reunion. **Sophie Rudge** claims no notable achievements over the last 20 years – except giving birth to four children. **Peter Sawyer** records as his achievement having survived his children's exams. **Jacqueline Thackeray** admits to no notable recent events but looks forward to the next reunion. **Geoff van Beek** lives and works in Rotterdam, specialising in oral implantology. **Jane Wood** has retired, despite her husband's best efforts to dissuade her. She has won the Dittisham Horticultural Society's flower-arranging cup two years in succession and looks forward to winning it again.

#### 1982

**Heather Totten** has been working in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, for the last 14 years. She has a "nice" Lebanese husband and 5-year-old twins, Philippe and Eva. She works full-time in a good general dentistry practice. She sometimes logs on to the BDH website and feels very nostalgic for her happy student days.

#### 1986

**Martin Fulford** was elected President of the BDA Western Counties Branch in April last year. **Mark Ward** conducted a questionnaire survey of his year and produced a 25-page A4 booklet which was distributed at their recent reunion. (*Somehow he managed to get 35 responses out of a possible 45 – a remarkable achievement.*) The questions ranged from family details, dental and non-dental interests, and present occupation, to what make of care they drive, and included questions about whether they would choose dentistry as a career again, if not why not, and details of their lives over the last 15 years. *I cannot give all the answers here – the following is a brief summary (Ed).*



*Martin Fulford being congratulated on receiving the President's badge of office from Prof. Chris Stephens.*

Under 'present occupation' most are GDPs, but there are three oral surgeons (David Courtney, Charles Dohvoma and John Tighe), an orthodontist (Adele Lees, née Poyner), an academic (Clare Ketley, née Owens), a pilot (Tom Coldicott), two community dental officers (Josie Lemon, née Bargman, and Kathy Fawcitt, née Poyner) a "domestic goddess" (Claire Blaszczyk, née Harrhy) – and then there's Stuart Littlehayes who states that he occupies "a small principality in Victoria and two small towns in Bolivia" (was he not taking this questionnaire seriously enough?). Non-dental interests range from all kinds of sports to yoga (Bethan Lees, née Rees), silversmithing (Ellen Hockridge), even politics (Helen Vaughan, née Meade), to "sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll" (Bijesh Patel) and "eating and, when not eating, sleeping" (Stuart Littlehayes). Cars range from Ferrari Testarossa and TVR Tuscan (David Courtney) to Skoda ("honest" says Mark Ward), to "a blue one" (Margaret Scott and Clare Quinn, née Denyer) and a "white one" (Josie Lemon). To the question on whether they would choose dentistry again, 16 of the 32 replies were 'yes', 9 'probably' and 7 'no'. Of those who replied 'no', some would have chosen another profession, while Clare Ketley would have chosen to marry someone very rich and run a tea shop in the Lake District, Jon Moore would have liked to be a millionaire playboy and MIS agent, and Stuart Littlehayes would have gone into the manufacture and development of weapons of mass destruction but realises it is so passé, with everyone doing it (he really wasn't taking this seriously enough!). Complete with a set of original 2<sup>nd</sup> BDS mugshots and a few more recent ones (including pilot Tom with a Royal Brunei plane, and an unidentified naked backside), this is a most informative and entertaining booklet. Well done Mark!

**1998**

**Connie Ong** did a house job in Birmingham after graduation before moving back to Brunei where he works in the dental hospital, within the general hospital. He completed Part A of the MFDS exam last May.



## OBITUARY

### Phil Hodges, 1947-2001

Phil died in June 2001, after an aggressive illness, bravely fought.



I first met him when we were freshers at Bristol in 1965. His student years were spent in pursuit of knowledge, of course, with beer and rugby balls in there somewhere too. He was a member of the 'Ratters'. He was famous for attempting to loop-the-loop in his bubble-car. There was his splendid performance as a solo Keystone Kop in the Little Plum Production's film 'Incompetence'. Few will forget his late-1940 news item for the 1966 Dental Smoker

describing how "The Italians have taken Cascara in the western desert and 10,000 Jerries are being rushed to their rear..."

Phil married Rachael, a staff nurse at the BRI, who happened to share a flat with my own wife-to-be. They moved to live in Hinckley, Leicestershire, as Phil became an associate in the area, before sharing a practice in Earl Shilton.

We developed a joint mania for canal cruising, especially the grubbier bits of the system, which continued after the arrival of Rebecca and Andrew, his children. After Phil, Rae and family acquired their narrowboat 'Watchet', summer holidays became a waterborn journey in search of the perfect pint/red/tincture. The food had to be good as well! Rick Stein's restaurant was a favourite on trips to Cornwall.

The boating had to be fitted in around the activities of Hinckley Rugby Club. The Welshman in Phil ensured that he and Rae spent many weekends training, ferrying and watching the minis, juniors and seniors around the area.

With Rae working on an intensive therapy unit, Phil, bless him, chose to have his heart attack when she was away in Taunton. He had the presence of mind to give Rebecca and Andrew tips on



*Canal cruising on the 'Watchet'.*

resuscitation whilst waiting for the ambulance! He made a good recovery and returned to work. Recently, he turned up in a cream and yellow Triumph Herald convertible whose claim to fame was that it had been driven by Lord Howe in 'The Car's the Star' on TV. What male menopause?

Phil's final illness overtook him rapidly. He had a full family and professional life, he saw his daughter Rebecca gain her BSc and well on the way to a PhD. Sadly he did not live to know that his son Andrew had also gained a good degree.

Philip was laid to rest in Cardiff, close to his infant brother and sister. He was a good friend, a real gentleman, and will be truly missed.

*Roger Hartley*

**FORTHCOMING REUNIONS**

*We have been notified that the following reunions are being organised. Please contact the organiser if you have not already been in touch.*

- 1972** Richard Taylor  
24 Lawson Road  
Sheffield  
S10 5BW  
Tel: 0114 266 8987
- 1979** Pam Norman  
6 Burnham Drive  
Newton  
Swansea SA3 4TW  
Tel: 01792 476714 (practice)  
Tel: 01792 368699 (home)  
e-mail: whytesathome@aol.com
- 1982** John Cantwell  
6a Longton Grove Road  
Weston Super Mare  
Somerset BS23 1LT  
Tel: 01934 628032
- 1987** James Spencer  
46 St James Street  
Wetherby  
LS22 6RS  
Tel: 01937 529464
- 1992** Ian Walker  
67 Park Grove  
Westbury on Trym  
Bristol BS9 4LQ  
Tel: 0117 9628139
- 1997** Kerry Catchpole  
Dufaystraat 2 III  
Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 21/11/2000 - 15/11/2001****Income**

Subscriptions	£2,817.00
Donations	£1,025.00
Ad. Medical Sickness Society	<u>£ 150.00</u>
	<b>£3,992.00</b>

**Expenditure**

Donations	
Dental School Library	£ 300.00
Electives	£ 200.00

**Newsletter**

Typing	£ 100.00
Printing	£ 321.00
Distribution	£ 196.09

Miscellaneous stationery & postage   £ 68.13

Bank charges   £ 120.54  
£1,305.76

**Excess income over expenditure   £2,686.24**

**Bank balance           at 21 November 2000   £3,751.75**  
                                  **at 15 November 2001   £6,437.99**