BSP NEWS
The British Society of Periodontology
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Meet your new President 2009/10
Professor Francis Hughes
Emeritus Member
BSP Serves up Masterclass
A Celebration of Sir Wilfred Fish
A great start to the Diamond Jubilee Year

Presidential Handover
At the Autumn Meeting 2009, Professor Gareth Griffiths handed over the reigns of the Presidency to Professor Francis Hughes.

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is once again proud to sponsor The BSP
Firstly I would like to thank all of you in the Society for the enormous honour you do me by asking me to serve as your president, particularly in this special Diamond Jubilee year.

My first challenge as your incoming president is to deliver a suitable address, something which has occupied my mind for some time. My very distinguished predecessors have ably tackled this task in many different ways such as adopting a range of autobiographical, clinical, scientific and political themes, typically in an erudite and witty way. By way of change I decided that I would make my own address into an advertisement, or perhaps more correctly an “infomercial,” to highlight some of the thinking behind the meetings I have planned for my presidential year, and along a rather tortuous way flag some other issues which excite or concern me.

I was initially inspired to follow a career in Periodontology by Frank Ashley at Guys, who by a delightful coincidence was BSP President 10 years ago when the society celebrated its Golden Jubilee. There are many others who have inspired me since including Fred Smurthwaite and Newell Johnson at The London. Today I continue to find periodontology an exciting discipline, which in scientific, research and clinical arenas is still able to make me feel “wow!”

I am confident that you all also have your own “wow factors” in periodontology. Thus we come to the WOW test to test yourself by starting with a non-periodontal example to warm up - this year England won the Ashes at cricket and qualified for the World Cup in football with 2 games to spare! Periodontal disease is an extremely interesting disease in terms of the pathogenic mechanisms and disease outcomes.

Periodontal disease is a fascinating topic. A number of bacterial species are known to cause periodontal disease. For example, it may be true that smoking does not cause periodontal disease in the absence of bacteria, but conversely it may well be true that bacteria do not cause periodontal disease without the presence of some other factors such as smoking. Here I suggest a few random statements that have a touch of WOW about them:

Fig 1

There is a basic clinical fact in periodontology which we all should remember well and that is just how effective periodontal treatment is essentially totally survival rates following well conducted periodontal treatment, even in severe cases, are probably better than implant survival rates (figure 2).

Fig 2

Turning to the Society’s meetings this year, in Brighton we will assemble to discuss “20 years of Periodontal Regeneration – where are we now?” Since the introduction of Guided Tissue Regeneration about 20 years ago a number of innovations and techniques have come along. Certainly the explosion in the understanding of the biology of the regenerative processes involved contains much that is “wow” about it. However our clinical results and outcomes remain often frustratingly modest (and definitely not always “wow”).

The Autumn Scientific Meeting takes as its theme: “Plaque or Vain – Does Plaque Really Cause Periodontal Disease?”

For me this is not just a gimmicky title but a serious question – when we are starting to understand just how complex the aetiology of this disease is, it is nigh that we should continue to say that plaque is the cause of periodontal disease. For example it may be true that smoking does not cause periodontal disease in the absence of bacteria, but conversely it may well be true that bacteria do not cause periodontal disease without the presence of some other factors such as smoking. Here I suggest a few random statements that have a touch of WOW about them:

Smoking increases the risk of periodontitis by about 5 fold (i.e. what is most striking about this widely accepted statement is not that it might be true, but that 20 years ago we had no idea that this was the case, and thought it was all down to the bacteria): From the epidemiology, type II diabetes mellitus may be responsible for about half a million cases of periodontitis in the UK.

As we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the BSP it is very pleasing to report that the Society is thriving. Under the excellent stewardship of Professor Gareth Griffiths our membership has continued to grow and is now approaching nearly 10000 members. Externally, the BSP is regarded (deservedly in my view) as one of the best organised, effective and most welcoming specialist societies in UK dentistry. This does not happen by accident. The hard work and commitment of the officers of the Society often goes largely unsung but without their efforts we would not really function. In addition we are very fortunate to have had a fantastic administration provided by Anne Hallowes and latterly by her successor, Helen Clough. Finally, the Society is only as good as its membership and I am delighted to applaud you all for your commitment and support, which is clearly evident from your collective inclusivity. It is pleasing to see that we are attracting larger numbers of non-members to our meetings, and I hope that they also find the opportunities to be inclusive, accessible and relevant. Judging from the recent Diamond Jubilee dinner it is also pleasing to note that the society still knows how to have a good party too! It is not time, however to be complacent about our activities.

We certainly have a number of challenges to face and I hope that the Scientific Programme will continue to make me feel “Wow!”.

Finally, in amongst the discussion of the society, I would also like to comment on the very sad deaths of 3 past presidents of the Society, Bryan Wade, Graham Smart and Bernie Kieser. Tributes to these great people have been made elsewhere but I would like to acknowledge the immense contributions to the Society and to British Periodontology generally. They will be sorely missed.

Francis Hughes
A Celebration of Contributions

During the last year the Society has lost 3 prominent members with the passing of Bryan Wade, Graham Smart and Bernie Kieser. It was fortunate enough to have known all 3 being worked closely with Graham and Bernie, and only encountering Bryan in the latter years of his career.

As President of the Society at the time, Bryan Wade wrote to me in December 2008 and early in his letter he said: "Don't feel that we really know each other though we must have met". We had met, but I was in my 20's at the time and Bryan was in his 60's, so it is not that surprising that I was aware of him, but he did not know me. I first became aware of Bryan through the British Society of Periodontology in 1981 when I attended my first BSP meeting. Bryan of course was a prominent figure in the Society. I then moved to London in 1983 and became more aware of Bryan, at meetings in the London area and through contact with the postgraduates he taught. Although I never worked with Bryan and was never taught by him personally, I know what high regard people who were fortunate enough to have enjoyed this experience held him in. Bryan was one of the founder members of the BSP and was secretary 1954-1956. He was President of the Society in 1983, and held the second term of office in 1984-1985 when the BSP hosted the North Sea Conference in Cambridge in 1984. For younger members of the Society, the Conference precedes the BSP and involved the Dutch, Scandinavian and British Societies of Periodontology in the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP). The only other person to have served as President on 2 occasions was Sir Wilfred Fish in the first year, 1949-1950 and then again in the Silver Jubilee year of 1973-1974. Bryan was also one of the Honorary members of the Society in recognition of his vast contribution over 40 years. Despite retiring 21 years ago Bryan kept a keen interest in the activities of the Society and what was happening in the world of Periodontology. 10 years ago he made a major contribution to the booklet on our history, which the Society produced as part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations. The letter he sent me in December 2008 was as a result of him receiving "the winter edition of BSP News," which reported on the very successful meeting organised by Graham Smart in Cambridge. This of course sparked happy memories for Bryan. A special note for our new editor is that Bryan was moved to comment "I find the News so ably edited by Philip Ower most interesting, though I did detect a few signs of disquiet in the last edition". He then went on to comment on 2 mistakes he felt the Society had made over the years. Firstly he felt we had “missed an opportunity for Periodontology to have the same status as Orthodontics and Oral Surgery” and secondly he felt “far too much authority is being given to hygienists and that he had heard that apparently some patients have not seen a dentist for 2-3 years”. Still showing interest in the Society age 86 and 21 years retired is something lots of us might aspire to.

Bernie Kieser died in September having fought cancer over the last year. It was typical of Bernie that he defied all predictions of the course of his illness, surviving longer than expected. Bernie was President of the Society in 1989-1990 and was made an Honorary Member in 2001. During his time as President, Bernie was instrumental in probably the Society’s broadest, which was to introduce Anne Hallowes as Administrative Manager to the Society, a post Anne has just retired from. This was a step which changed us from an organisation run on goodwill, and gave Bernie the support he needed to run organisation which many of the other Societies envied. Bernie was a very active member of the Society who last presented his provocative thoughts at the Spring Meeting in Cambridge 2008 where one of his former students, Graham Smart, was President. I had the privilege of sharing an office with Bernie for many years at the Eastman and learnt a huge amount from him about periodontology, dentistry, teaching, sport and life. Many of the students passing through his hands have benefited similarly from his teaching, and questioning approach. For a man who preached a non-surgical approach to Periodontal therapy, he also had one of “the best pair of hands” for surgery that I have seen. It was Bernie’s funeral the day of our September meeting and several members were torn as to where they should be. However, with the title “Plaque on Trial” I know that Bernie was present at that meeting and ready to answer a question or an argument to put forward. This is because Bernie was always a flamboyant ambassador for Perio who loved to challenge verbally and intellectually what was understood as accepted thinking. He provoked people into self-reflection, making you examine your beliefs and practices. He was a person you could go to for advice and he would be the first to help without expecting anything in return. Bernie liked and enjoyed people, particularly if he could help them in some way. He, like the Bryan and Graham will be a sad loss for us all.

Gareth Griffiths

Bernie Kieser

Graham Smart died in June after a long battle with cancer. Graham was a member of the BSP for many years and was President of the Society in 2007-2008. Val Cleeher (immediate past president to Graham) and myself (president elect) know how difficult it must have been for Graham to fulfill his role as President. Many have described Graham as a caring, kind, thoughtful, modest man who never ruffled anyone. Graham was always inspiringly positive about his illness and never alluded to any difficulties, so we were all delighted that he was able to complete a memorable year as President. This included the first Pan Society meeting in Birmingham and members will recall his excellent Spring Meeting in Cambridge, with a very successful conference programme and a most memorable dinner which will live long in the memory of all who were there. Graham was also well known as a practitioner, teacher and research worker and made a significant contribution to Periodontology in general and the Society specifically. I was fortunate enough to work with Graham when I was working for the Medical Research Council undertaking a study at RAF Halton. I also worked with him on a study of local delivery antimicrobials, so we published together. Graham always had a thoughtful, considerate, meticulous approach and was a joy to work with. I would also recognise the valuable contribution that Graham made to me in my early years in periodontology. The pair have educated and inspired many dentists and hygienists up and down the country. As a testament to his dedication Graham was fulfilling a teaching obligation a few weeks before he died. Many of the tributes that were sent to the family along with condolence messages highlighted many of Graham’s attributes but the things that stuck out for me were; that Graham was no pushover, but a good observer and had a great sense of humour. One of the tributes was from a former student, "I was principled, tactful and showed good judgement. A true gentleman!"

Richard Palmer

A Big Thank You Ghilaine

Richard Palmer presented the work done within the EC to restructure the committees in order to meet the objectives identified in the Strategic Planning. The structure has been simplified and 4 committees have been identified: Congress, Education, Workshop and External Affairs. Among the objectives of the External Affairs Committee are: to develop and improve communications with the National Societies for professional bodies; to develop and facilitate communication of key messages to the public; to promote the recognition of Periodontology as a Specialty; to promote and develop good relations with the Industry and sponsors. This new structure as well as the proposal of Mónica Guillen the EFP European Coordinator to offer her full time services to the EFP, were unanimously approved by the GA. Richard Palmer also pointed out the need for the EFP to go forward by updating the by-laws. An Extraordinary General Assembly will be held in September 2009 for the revision of the by-laws and the appointment of the new Secretary General.

Maurizio Tonetti, Editor of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology, informed about an agreement with Wiley Blackwell that the 2008 issue of the JCP subscription cost (print and online) would remain the same as for 2008. In 2010 there will be slight increase to the online subscription. We reported on the work done by the EFP Governing Committee to identify the needs and priorities of the members. In particular, the membership is increasing and we are looking to the future. A new initiative was reported on, which involved a discussion with the EFP members in London, as the excellent organisation of the EFP in the UK and the countries of Europe and the diaspora. The General Assembly closed with Secretary General, Pierre Baehni thanking the Executive Committee for their reports and the EFP Secretariat for the work done in the organisation of this GA. He also expressed the EFP’s gratitude to the President of the RAC for his support to the EFP, and the British Society of Periodontology. A special mention was made to the RAC for their visit to Barcelona and the great organisation of Ghilaine Ouer. We believe that this experience of the UK, London in particular, will certainly enhance the chances of any future bids to host Europerio.

Richard Palmer

The EFP Executive Committee reported on the work they have done over the last year. The EFP representatives especially enjoyed the sights and hospitality of London. On the Friday evening a social event was held at the famous wine merchants Berry Bros. The EFP representatives certainly enjoyed the hospitality shown to our EFP friends and guests, a superb dinner in the Napoleon Cellars. On the following day they were treated to fine wines, a presentation and a tour of the famous wine merchants Berry Bros. They also enjoyed a visit to the famous wine merchants Berry Bros.

Richard Palmer

The most recent General Assembly (GA) was held in London on Saturday 28 February, 2009. Members of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly met at the Tudor Rose Room of the Sheraton Park Lane Hotel on Piccadilly. The GA meeting agenda was extremely extensive, the President very briefly reported on the main activities since the Spring meeting of 2008, which included: a) the Strategic Planning to update the current structure of the EFP; b) the need for the EFP to go forward by updating the by-laws; c) an Extraordinary General Assembly will be held in September 2009 for the revision of the by-laws and the appointment of the new Secretary General; d) the Chairmen of the Committees, the EFP representatives and the Board representatives from the National Societies (56 people in total) attended this important meeting.

Bernie Kieser

The President, Richard Palmer opened the meeting by welcoming all the representatives of the national societies and members of the Executive Committee and the EFP Secretariat for their support during his year of presidency. As the GA meeting agenda was very extensive, the President very briefly reported on the main activities since the Spring meeting of 2008, which included: a) the Strategic Planning to update the current structure of the EFP; b) the need for the EFP to go forward by updating the by-laws; c) an Extraordinary General Assembly will be held in September 2009 for the revision of the by-laws and the appointment of the new Secretary General; d) the Chairmen of the Committees, the EFP representatives and the Board representatives from the National Societies (56 people in total) attended this important meeting.
oral surgery areas.

3 clinical areas within our lodge which was to be our home and hundreds of toothbrushes and toothpaste. We designated capsulated GIC and an amalgamator, as well as a portable autoclave for our classrooms. I was instantly struck by these bright, interactive children. They had been given an Oral Hygiene talk at the local primary school. This school with an Oral Hygiene talk at the area. Their initiative involved encouraging the local people to work to improve their own village in exchange for food. A great example of empowering people to make a difference to their community.

In total we examined approximately 600 patients, some walking for 5 hours from surrounding villages and mountainous areas to reach us. We placed over 250 fillings and extracted 300 teeth. At least 700 toothbrushes and toothpastes were distributed. A great initiative by one of the dentists was to give all the children animal balloons - I can’t even count how many of those we handed out as a small gesture to help lift their spirits.

After a breathtaking helicopter ride over the Himalayas we reached Samagon, a remote village in the Valley (8300m above sea level), overlooked by the magnificent beauty of Mount Manaslu (the world’s eighth highest mountain 8163m). Samagon (population approx 600) is geographically isolated. The closest road to Kathmandu is a 6 day hike away. It has been called the Forgotten Kingdom; until 1992 there was a complete government restriction of foreigners into the area. Houses were simple one roomed stone and wood constructions. There were no cars, buses, elevators, forceps, 2 handpieces, an array of equipment including LA, and all other equipment had to be flown in. The lack of amenities all used to make this remote area. Extractions were carried out outdoors, away from the local people to work to improve their own village in exchange for food. A great example of empowering people to make a difference to their community.

This was a humbling and satisfying experience; full of adventure, breathtaking natural beauty, spirited and dedicated local people and clinics with a passion for making a difference. I feel honoured to be part of such a great project and would go back without hesitation!
The President, Professor Gareth Griffiths, held his spring meeting for 265 delegates at Sheffield Hallam University on 13th & 14th April 2009. The theme of the meeting was ‘Aggressive Periodontitis’. After a welcome by the President, the session chair, Mr Raj Joshi introduced the opening speaker, Professor Urs Brägger, who had agreed to extend his presentation because Professor Tonetti was not able to be with us as a result of family illness.

In his presentation he discussed the biological and technical risks associated with tooth and implant supported fixed reconstructions in periodontally-affected dentitions. This was followed by an extended discussion session. The conference dinner was held in the splendid Cutler’s Hall. Guests were entertained during the reception by the Pisgah string quartet. After dinner Phil Steele, BBC Wales sports commentator, and friend of the President, held the attention of the guests with many amusing and topical stories, some at the expense of those at the President’s table!

During proceedings Professor Griffiths awarded the Sir Wilfred Fish prize to Dr Mike Millward, and received a cheque from Mr Simon Gambold of Henry Schein in recognition of the partnership agreement with the Society. He also conferred emeritus membership of the Society on Anne Hallowes, who has retired, having served as Administrative Manager for 20 years. He presented Anne with a number of gifts in appreciation of her work and support.

Gifts were also presented to Ghilaine Ower, conference manager and to Sandra Or, the assistant honorary secretary. The new administrative manager, Helen Clough, was also welcomed into the Society.

The Bob Ludlam band then provided music for those who wished to dance the rest of the night away.

The Saturday morning session, chaired by Professor Gerry Linden, opened with a joint presentation from the President accompanied by Professor Francis Hughes who addressed the issues of aetiopathogenesis and the difficulties of classification. We are grateful to both speakers who stepped in at short notice and helped to clarify this difficult topic.

Professor Mogens Kilian then spoke on genetic diversity among human subjects and within bacterial species. He referred to the JP2 clone of Aa which has enhanced virulence and causes higher prevalence of aggressive periodontitis in subjects of Mediterranean and West African origin.

After coffee Dr Luigi Nibali discussed genetic risk factors in aggressive periodontitis. He reviewed the evidence that genetic susceptibility could influence the host response to infections, and the interactions between our genetic susceptibility and our bacterial flora.

After lunch Professor Francis Hughes used the literature and his own findings to examine the prognostic factors determining treatment outcome in generalised aggressive periodontitis cases. He reviewed the evidence for tooth survival and non-responding sites, and considered the use of adjunctive treatments.

Professor Paul Hatton described how tissue engineering could be used to replace tissues lost as a result of aggressive periodontitis, as a result of aggressive periodontitis, suffer from early tooth loss. The meeting closed following a good panel discussion led by the session chair Professor Andrew Rawlinson, with keen questioning from the audience.

The Society is grateful to the major sponsors of the meeting, GlaxoSmithKline, Colgate and FGS Professional Oral Health. We are also grateful to Ghilaine Ower our conference manager and Helen Clough, the new administrative manager, for their help in the organisation of this meeting.

BSP Serves Up Masterclass

The Sheffield meeting was an excellent conference in a great location and venue. It also scored another first in that two hands-on courses were run as part of the conference. The first was a specialist level masterclass in microsurgery delivered by Professor Marcus Hürzeler. The second was a course on examination and treatment planning for GDPS and hygienists delivered by Professor Andrew Rawlinson, Mr Raj Joshi, Mr Keith Figures and Mr Chris Dinsdale. Both courses were heavily over-subscribed and were considered to be highly successful. None of our meetings would happen without the extremely hard work and dedication of Ghilaine Ower, our conference manager, supported by Helen Clough, our new Administrative Manager.

Elsewhere, sessions on “Periodontal Probing and Treatment Planning for the Periodontal Patient” were being held. At coffee, your editor mingled with those delegates and it was clear that these sessions was also a thoroughly enjoyable and informative. Be assured, further Masterclasses are being organised, the next being in January 2010 (see page 15).
EuroPerio 6

2009 was a EuroPerio year, and EuroPerio 6 was held in Stockholm from 4-6 June 2009. This was an excellent meeting, with some outstanding presentations. There were also lots of learning opportunities for those who might think of hosting EuroPerio in the future, such as ensuring that lecture halls are big enough and that there are adequate catering facilities available. 232 delegates from the UK attended the meeting, a very impressive turnout.

This was certainly a grand occasion, with many BSP members attending and presenting. Professor Griffiths represented the Society well and his flag waving at the opening ceremony was second to none (see photo with Union Jack). As you can see from the photographs of the event, this was certainly a grand occasion, with many BSP members attending and presenting.

Autumn Meeting

The incumbent President, Professor Francis Hughes held his Autumn Scientific Meeting at The Royal Institution of Great Britain in London on 24th and 25th September 2009. This was a Diamond Jubilee meeting and began on the Thursday afternoon with the ‘Jubilee Celebration of the Sir Wilfred Fish Prize’ and subsequent competition. Following this, a debate ensued with two short presentations, one “for” and one “against” a change of name for the society made by Professor Nikos Donos and Dr Isobel Madden. Professor Nikos Donos proposed that a change of name would align the BSP with a number of other EFP member societies. Conversely, Dr Isobel Madden supported the proposal that within the name BSP,ugent aspects of the society made by Professor Nikos Donos and Dr Isobel Madden. Professor Nikos Donos proposed that a change of name would align the BSP with a number of other EFP member societies. Conversely, Dr Isobel Madden supported the proposal that within the name BSP, all aspects of the field are included and that we should not limit ourselves to particular areas of the subject and therefore the name should remain unchanged. This was a healthy debate and it was great to see so many contributions from the audience. No doubt this will be an ongoing discussion.

To mark the occasion, a Diamond Jubilee Dinner was held at One Whitehall Place where a fabulous time was had by all.

The Friday morning began with the Annual General Meeting which was followed by the presidential handover. Professor Hughes delivered his Presidential address “Wow!!” see Page 2 in this newsletter.

The remainder of the day was spent putting ‘Plaque on Trial’ with a series of distinguished speakers tackling the issue of whether plaque really does cause periodontal disease. Professors Dietrich (Birmingham), Bergström (Stockholm), Needleman (London), Preshaw (Newcastle) and Curtis (London) then examined this area in detail. This was a great meeting and a wonderful Jubilee Celebration.

The Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize

The Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize, instituted in 1970, is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Society. It is awarded annually with the object of encouraging researchers in the early stages of their career.

Delving into the BSP archives has uncovered the names of previous winners who will be familiar to many within the Society. These include our current President who was awarded the prize in 1985. The Autumn Diamond Jubilee meeting was a suitable forum for a celebration of this research activity with presentations from Professor Ian Mackenzie (the very first winner of the prize) Professor Gregory Seymour, Professor Iain Chapple, Dr Yu-Kang Tu and Dr Anouseh Alavi. As always information for anyone interested in competing for this prestigious award in the future, details can be found at the BSP website. (http://www.bsperio.org.uk/awards.htm)

Previous Winners

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Helen Clough has been appointed as the Society’s new administrative manager

Helen has an illustrious and varied background which ensures she will be perfectly suited for her new position with the Society. She has over 30 years’ experience of health care in both the NHS and the private sector, as well as the business sector. Within the NHS, she has worked at a senior level both in nursing and general management, and has recently been appointed as a lay member to the PCT in Leeds. She has worked as a magistrate for the last 10 years, with a special interest in family work. While working for Bradford Hospital’s NHS Trust, she worked variously as a Systems Accountant, a Business Development Manager, and as the Complaints Manager for the Trust. She has also worked as the Legal Practice Manager for a firm of solicitors in West Yorkshire.

Helen lives in Yorkshire with Arthur and Dotty, with whom she enjoys fell walking in the Yorkshire dales. Arthur and Dotty are her two labradors. She spends what little free time she has cooking for friends, singing with her local choral society and indulging her passion for opera. She enjoys sailing and has recently discovered windsurfing although she admits it will be better when she learns how to turn. Helen brings a wealth of varied, and highly relevant expertise to her new position, and the Society is incredibly fortunate to have secured her services.
Au Revoir from Anne Hallowes

I shall always be indebted to Bernie Kieser who, in 1989 when he became President of the British Society of Periodontology, recommended to Council that I should become the Society’s administrator. I had worked with Bernie for many months on the preparation of his book “Periodontics: A Practical Approach” and he was aware of my experience as an administrator and medical secretary. In addition to the day to day administration of the Society I organised the Spring and Autumn meetings and the Roadshows, the largest meeting being the joint meeting with the BDHA and IAP in May 2001 when Hubert Newman was President and which was attended by 650 delegates. However with the demands of an increasing membership as the Society grew, Council came to the conclusion that the time had come to take on a Conference Manager and in 2004 Ghilaine Ower was appointed and it has been a pleasure to work along side her since then. Serving the Society has been a great honour and I have made many friends. It was a privilege to assist Frank Ashley in arranging the Society’s 50th Anniversary celebrations and to be invited to the Diamond Jubilee dinner held on 24 September 2009 as the Society’s first Emeritus Member.

My last official duty as the retiring Administrative Manager was to support members attending EuroPeriod in Stockholm where I was delighted to meet a number of overseas members with whom I had been communicating for many years but whom I had never met. I have enjoyed the close working relationship with Monica Guiney of the European Federation of Periodontology and with the staff of Munksgaard in Denmark and latterly with Blackwells in Oxford.

As I say au revoir, I wish to thank my husband, Ashley, for his unstinting support as well as our daughters, Suzanne and Kirsty, who helped with the preparation for meetings in the early years.

Finally thank you to the Society for bestowing on me the honour of becoming the first Emeritus Member, thank you for the gifts which were presented to me by Gareth Griffiths at Cutlers’ Hall, Sheffield in March 2009 and thank you to the many members who have wished me well in my retirement.

I wish the Society best wishes for its future as it faces new challenges and every good wish to Helen Clough, my successor.

Professor Val Clerehugh has kindly produced a taster of what is to come from her in the future:

Since 1986, the British Society of Periodontology has advocated that adults be screened for periodontal diseases in General Dental Practice. These original guidelines were updated in 2001 with the inception of the Basic Periodontal Examination (BPE) in the UK (1) and similar systems operate in Europe and the USA.

However, at present there are no universally agreed guidelines for periodontal screening of children and adolescents. Therefore, currently, the British Society of Periodontology and the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry are working on a joint initiative led by Professor Val Clerehugh and Dr Susan Kindelan with the aim of formulating and disseminating periodontal guidelines for the under 18s which are quick and easy to use in practice (2) and based on evidence-based principles.

The proposed system involves assessing six index teeth (UR6, UR1, UL6, LL6, LL1, LR6) using the usual WHO 621 style probe with a 0.5 mm ball end and black band at 3.5 to 5.5 mm. BPE codes 0-2 will be used in the 7- to 11-year-olds and the full range of codes 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and * will be used in the 12- to 17-year-olds (Figures 1 and 2) - use of the index teeth in these age groups is to avoid the problem of false pockets (3). Guidance will also be given on which cases warrant referral for specialist care, such as those shown in Figure 3.

Figure Legends

*Simplified BPE
• Index teeth (WHO partial recording for adolescents) UR6, UR1, UL6, LL6, LL1, LR6
• BPE codes 0,1,2,3 ages 7-11 years (mixed dentition stage)
• Full range BPE codes 0,1,2,3,4,* ages 12+ years (permanent teeth erupted)

Diagnosis of aggressive periodontitis
Incipient chronic periodontitis not responding to treatment
Systemic medical condition associated with periodontal destruction
Medical history that significantly affects periodontal treatment or requiring multi-disciplinary care
Genetic conditions predisposing to periodontal destruction
Root morphology adversely affecting prognosis
Non-plaque-induced conditions requiring complex or specialist care
Cases requiring diagnosis/management of rare/complex clinical pathology
Drug-induced gingival overgrowth
Cases requiring evaluation for periodontal surgery

References

Figure 1. BPE codes and index teeth for children and adolescents

Figure 2a. Index teeth UR6, UR1, UL6, LL6, LL1, LR6 and grid for recording simplified BPE in the under 18s; a) WHO 621 probe; and c) probe being used to undertake simplified BPE on LL6 index tooth

Figure 3. When to refer to a specialist

Figure 1

Figure 2a

Figure 3
Website Update

The use of the BSP website continues to be at a high level with the number of hits now close on 1.4 million.

We have recently had a lot of new members join the BSP which is very encouraging. For those not familiar with the website there is a jobs page that enables you to post adverts. It is easy to use and you can also post jobs on behalf of non members. There is also a case studies page with 10 very interesting cases to view.

The website can also be used for posting details of periodontal courses. As a society we are keen to promote courses so if you have details of courses you want posting then you can send them to me to upload (addyj@cardiff.ac.uk). The website also has the presentations from last year’s road shows available for you to look at. Based on the attendance levels and the feedback these would be well worth a look at and can be accessed from the Meetings presentations download page.

One part of the website that is overlooked by members is the Meetings presentations download page. These would be well worth a look at and can be accessed from the Meetings presentations download page.

A discussion topic entitled “should we change the name of the BSP to include implants?” is now on the website... an ideal opportunity to have your say.

Liam Addy, Webmaster

Caption Competition

There were 2 shining entries for the last caption competition and they win joint first place, “OK, OK I’ll dance with you Freda. Just stop twisting my arm...”

Ghilaine Overy

John Coventry: “Really, Freda, you didn’t have to twist my arm quite so far to get me to ask you to dance”

Hywel Evans

Coffee Time

For those of you with a few moments during a patient cancellation, try and find the names of all of the current Council members. If you are really struggling, the Editor would suggest that you remind yourselves who is on Council and are a current member of the dental team including dental hygienists. If you hyperlink to the members area from the home page the forum link is on the left hand side of the page (you will need your members username and password - if you have forgotten it there is a built in system to send you a reminder) Once you are into the forum the most useful forum is the clinical one. Have a look at some of the threads. There are a couple of cases that have been discussed as well and are worth a read.

If you are up for posting an item your self this is also very easy. You have to do is click on new topic and type away. You can also attach pictures or documents as well. The system will notify you of a response to your posted item by email when it occurs.

We have recently had a lot of new members join the BSP which is very encouraging.

Future Meetings

Spring Meeting

Brighton 26 – 27th April 2009

20 years of Periodontal Regeneration - where are we now?

It is just over 20 years since periodontal regeneration techniques became a reality for our patients. Over this time there have been a number of techniques and products come along for this therapy yet at times results of these procedures can be disappointing. Recent scientific advances have also identified the possibility of new generations of regenerative therapies with wider application and more predictable outcomes, including the possible use of growth factors, tissue engineering scaffolds, and further down the line of stem cell and even gene therapies.

We have assembled a stellar cast of some of the foremost clinicians and scientists in the world in this field to speak at this meeting. These include Pier Paolo Cortellini, Leonardo Trombelli, Chris McCulloch, William Giannobile, Richard Palmer and Dieter Bossardt. The programme will consider the history of regenerative techniques both clinically and biologically, where we are today including practical tips and evidence on outcomes, and considering the potential for new therapies based on emerging regenerative technologies. We particularly hope that the programme will give an excellent mix of clinical detail and scientific background.

In addition we will be running one parallel session on periodontal maintenance to be addressed by Phil Ower, Jeanie Suvan and Peter Heasman which we hope will be of particular interest to members of the dental team including dental hygienists.

The meeting will be held in the Brighton Dome, a venue very suitable for the society’s diamond jubilee celebrations and indeed the very stage on which ABBA won the Eurovision song contest! We expect also to have a large trade exhibition present. The Conference dinner will be held in the Hilton Brighton Metropole and will be followed by dancing to a great band – “Jamtastic”

Brighton in spring is a great setting for this meeting so we hope you will put the event in your diaries now!

British Society of Periodontology Masterclass

Advanced Instrumentation Skills with Jeanie Suvan and Ruth Glover

Venue: Eastman Dental Hospital, London
Eastman Clinical Investigation Centre, 256 Grays Inn Road

Date: Saturday January 30th 2010 09.30 - 16.30

Cost: £725 to include refreshments and lunch

This course is designed for individuals who will be teaching instrumentation skills for subgingival debridement to young practitioners and hygienists.

The course will include:

• A review of current instrumentation techniques
• A variety of innovative hands-on teaching aids & practical exercises
• The use of a variety of hand and ultrasonic instrumentation
• Hints for increasing instrumentation efficiency
• The use and limitations of various model systems for teaching
• Teaching motivation

Maximum numbers: 20
6.5 hrs verifiable CPD

Booking opens on-line from 1st December 2009: www.bsperio.org.uk
Honorary Treasurer’s Report
Report of the Honorary Treasurer of the British Society of Periodontology
2008 Accounts presented at the Annual General Meeting
Royal Institute of Great Britain, 25th September 2009

Professor Heasman opened his report to the membership by confirming that the accounting period was for the financial year 1st January to 31st December 2008 and that the accounts had been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005).

The financial summary for 2008 showed a deficit of (£55,083) due to a total expenditure of £286,413 outweighing the income of £231,330. Almost all of the deficit was because of the increased costs of running the Society which were associated with a number of items: Fellowship grants, prizes, Council expenses and accountancy costs. The cost of the electronic journal had also increased in relative terms as a direct consequence of the weak pound against the Euro and because this payment is made annually in Euros. The meetings in 2008 were run at a small deficit of £3,655 but this was reduced from the previous year.

The Treasurer recommended:
• To increase the subscriptions for all levels of membership the Society by £10.00 in 2010
• That Council, on behalf of the membership considers carefully appropriate measures to make savings for 2010
• That we retain the services of Richard Barwick as accountant to the Society
• That we retain the services of Herbert Parnell as independent auditors to the Society

The AGM voted to support the Honorary Treasurer and Council’s recommendation that the Society retain the services of Mr Richard Barwick in the preparation of the accounts and of Herbert Parnell, Chartered Accountants, in the independent examiner or audit of the accounts.

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A special mention to Professor Val Clerehugh,
Dr Philip Ower and Dr Mike Milward for their excellent photographs used in this newsletter.

Henry Schein* is once again proud to sponsor The BSP

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