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Henry Schein Dental is once again proud to support the BSP
Welcome to the BSP’s latest Newsletter
A EuroPerio8 special!
Ian Dunn Honorary Editor

2015 has been a very different year for the Society in many ways and it seems fitting that the Newsletter reflects the events that have marked this year as being different from our previous 65 years!

Not only have we been at the heart of the most fantastic EFP conference – about which there is much to read in this Special Edition of the Newsletter – but the Society itself has embarked on some ambitious projects of its own. You will remember at the AGM in 2014 the Society voted unanimously to adopt the Strategic Plan that states clear objectives for the Society over the next 5 years with the operational route we need to take to achieve them. One of these objectives is to completely overhaul our website and identify the BSP “brand”. Needless to say, this is an enormous undertaking and one in which I am proud to have taken part. We are nearly there and you can already see the new logo gracing the front cover of this Newsletter – its first outing! I hope you like it and feel that it gives a fresher more modern look to the Society. The new website will follow very shortly and I am sure you will find it an exciting new way of looking at the Society. You will also have noticed that the AGM, traditionally held at our Autumn Meeting, was timed this year to coincide with EP8. It was heartening to see so many people there and to sense the enthusiasm with which members relate to the BSP. At this meeting the membership was again asked to consider a not insignificant change to the running of the Society: amending its Constitution. One of the main reasons for doing this was to create a more efficient framework for Council to operate within and to streamline the important dates in the Society’s calendar, namely the Presidential Year, the Membership Year and the Financial Year. They all now run from January to December. The AGM will normally take place during the Annual Conference held during the Spring of each year. Officers will be elected for the following year at this meeting.

There are many more exciting initiatives that have started this year and some are written about in this edition. I hope you will enjoy reading about them and I look forward to giving you a progress report in the 2016 Newsletter!

Dates for Your Diary 2016 Events

**7th – 9th April 2016**
Spring Conference, Oxford

**22nd & 23rd April 2016**
The Dentistry Show, NEC Birmingham.

**26th – 28th May 2016**
British Dental Conference & Exhibition, Manchester

**6th – 8th October 2016**
BDiA Dental Showcase, ExCel, London

**11th & 12th November 2016**
Pan Dental Society Conference, ICC Birmingham

**18th & 19th November 2016**
BSDHT Oral Conference, Belfast

Full details of all these events are available on the BSP website www.bsperio.org.uk
Let’s open doors...

Social media for the BSP
Andrea Williams

Love it, hate it or simply just don’t get it, social media is here and showing no signs of going away - so what does that mean to membership organisations like the BSP?

In a nutshell, social media is online networking – whether it’s personal or for business. You set up a profile with the aim of connecting with people – your friends, family and/or business associates. The idea is that the connections ripple outwards so you have more chance of connecting with more people. If Joe Bloggs Coffee Company is on Facebook and liked by one of my friends, I will become alerted to the presence of Joe Bloggs and consider it for myself. You can see why this is attractive, particularly on a business level.

There are all sorts of facts and figures bandied about but it’s true to say that if Facebook was a country, it would be the largest in the world with 1.39 billion active users – that’s more than the entire population of China (estimated at 1.36 billion). Ironically, Facebook is largely blocked in China so there is clearly further growth potential! Globally, 40 million small businesses have Facebook accounts (source: DMR Digital Marketing Stats). Inflated or inaccurate as these figures may be, because we never truly know, it does give us a clear indication of the reach of social networking sites like Facebook.

A useful way to look at social media is to consider it part of the communication mix that can be accessed through a series of doors. In the not-so-distant past we had 4 ways to communicate - phone, face-to-face, traditional advertising and post. We had 4 doors. Now we still have our 4 doors plus websites, social media, blogs, Skype/Facetime and many others. If we give each platform its own door, we have somewhere in the region of 15 doors. Why would we close them? Social media is an inexpensive way to open more doors, reach more people and communicate in a way that engages a wider audience.

It’s also true to say that the age range of social media users spans all the generations although the percentage dips dramatically at 50+. For example, the % of users on Twitter aged between 25 and 44 is 52% compared with 18% aged over 45 (source: Statista.com). We can expect the age demographic to change quite dramatically as existing users, comfortable with the technology, grow older.

For now, the BSP has chosen Facebook, Twitter and YouTube as its social media platforms. We are also working on a new website with an integral blog page. These will all work together to help us articulate the right messages for the organisation.

In terms of content for the sites used by the BSP, we are looking for information that is valuable and easy to recycle. If one of our members writes an academic article, chances are it can be quickly re-written in layman’s terms. There’s a blog. It can be further distilled into Facebook posts, Tweets and Linked In posts. This isn’t to say we would lose any of its original integrity as we can constantly link back to the original piece (that also may have been printed in a professional publication and should now be sitting on the BSP website). You can see how a simple article can be repurposed for the many communication platforms we are building. By doing this, we are expanding our readership, catching people from all angles and not just the original audience for which it was intended. It extends the shelf life of the original piece and makes it much more dynamic. Of course, in addition, we use social media to educate, connect and engage by promoting events, news, human-interest stories and research.

For a membership organisation like the BSP, this kind of activity will attract all sorts of people – young members, dental professionals, other medical professionals, patients, the public and even your own social circle. As long as what we are communicating is true, credible and consistent, it is positive for the society. It’s all about getting our message out in a variety of forms, through a range of methods to different groups of people but saying the same thing – same tone, same voice, same professionalism.

So whatever your feelings are on social media, the very least we can do is to use it to open a few doors.
Now that’s Commitment!

by Reena Wadia ECG Media Officer

What happens when you bring together 10,000 periodontists, budding periodontists, hygienists or anyone else with an interest in perio under one roof for 4 days? You guessed it - EuroPerio8 - the biggest and most important scientific gathering in the world of periodontology to date.

This triennial congress aimed to update the perio people on the latest research and innovations in clinical practice through lectures and workshops delivered by world-renowned experts. “The programme had something for everybody”, said Nik Pandya, a specialist periodontist from Colchester. Manoj Tank, a specialty trainee in Periodontology echoed Nik’s words, “the committee did wonders to be able to put on a conference to suit everyone!” Although there were up to 4 presentations running simultaneously, sometimes for up to 12 hours a day, the halls were packed with enthusiastic delegates. Even during the coffee breaks, the learning continued and colleagues were busy engaging in interesting debates. Karishma Dusara, a GDP working in Cambridge, explained, “the presentations were incredibly informative but it was just as helpful to pick up tips through conversations with more experienced practitioners”.

The industrial exhibition was similarly buzzing with exciting discussions between attendees and sponsors. The delegates were dedicated to finding out more about the latest products and equipment, and with up to 134 exhibitors I am sure they were not disappointed! Sara Sheikh, a hygienist working in London said, “I’m really looking forward to updating my patients about the latest oral hygiene products”.

The hours remaining in the day (and night) following the lectures and exhibition were devoted to networking and celebrating such a landmark event. The “work hard, play hard” rule certainly applied to this conference. Dom Sinson, a specialty trainee in Periodontology commented, “the parties had a real mix of individuals and we were fortunate to be the penultimate group in history to experience a gala dinner at the Royal Courts of Justice”.

Praveen Sharma, Secretary for the Early Career Group, went on to say, “the good food and live music brought out the party animal in us all!”

So this leaves me with the only question I need help with: Is there any other professional dental federation that has put together such a well received, large-scale event? Don’t worry I’m struggling too! The hard work and dedication of the organising committee’s certainly paid off and I’m sure everyone is very much looking forward to EuroPerio9. The bad news: as a three yearly event we’ll all have to wait till Amsterdam 2019.
The global prevalence of periodontitis in adults remains high and peri-implant diseases represent an emerging healthcare burden. There is therefore a need to re-focus oral health priorities upon primary prevention of periodontitis by managing gingivitis (and peri-implant mucositis), and upon secondary prevention aimed at preventing disease recurrence in previously treated periodontitis patients.

- Mechanical plaque control should be the focus of preventive periodontal therapy, but should be personalised to individual patient circumstances. Therefore, necessary pre-requisites include: diagnosis; risk assessment (subject & site level); patient education; motivation and behaviour change guidance; reinforcement of advice and re-motivation.

- Professional guidance in oral hygiene is vital and is effective in reducing plaque levels and gingival inflammation. Clinicians should devote sufficient time to this key stage of the prevention regime and discourage patient self-medication with oral healthcare products in the absence of a diagnosis and professional guidance.

- Conscientious manual tooth brushing reduces gingivitis, but the ideal brush head design remains unknown. Generally, small headed brushes with medium end-rounded bristles are advised.

- Re-chargeable power brushes are more effective at reducing plaque scores and gingival inflammation than their manual counterparts, but there is insufficient evidence at this time to support one brush design over another.

- Daily interproximal cleaning is essential for maintaining interproximal gingival health.

- There is insufficient evidence to recommend the use of dental floss for interdental cleaning. The role of dental floss in daily interproximal cleaning should be limited to situations where the use of interdental brushes is inappropriate, e.g. healthy sites with narrow interdental spaces.

- Where spaces will accommodate without trauma, interdental brushes, then they are the current method of choice and provide higher levels of plaque reduction. However, caution is advised in the use of interdental brushes at healthy sites without attachment loss where interdental spaces may be too narrow to safely accommodate them.

- As an adjunct to mechanical plaque removal, mouth rinses offer significant benefit in the management of gingivitis as do certain chemical agents in dentifrices. The use of mouth rinse requires additional patient adherence, has cost and environmental implications and should thus be considered on a case by case basis.
The film, The Sound of Periodontitis, was premiered at EuroPerio8 on 3 June 2015. It is a key product of the BSP’s new strategic focus on public engagement. The film tells the story of the patient’s view of periodontal disease and explores the experience of what it is like to live with the condition and treatment journey.

It was the centre piece of a public engagement session at EP8 bringing patients into the heart of EuroPerio for the first time. It is available to be viewed or downloaded at http://www.efp.org/public and we encourage BSP members to share it widely with their patients and colleagues.

The film has been extremely well received featuring in a BDJ leader. Figures from the online survey show that around 90% of viewers find it interesting and around 2/3rds plan to use the insights from the film. The conference session was a major success filling the 500 seat auditorium and second overflow room and by early July had already been viewed more than 9,000 times.

The project was led by Professor Ian Needleman, Unit of Periodontology, UCL Eastman Dental Institute together with a working group including Professor Philip Preshaw, Professor Francis Hughes and Mrs Ghilaine Ower from the BSP, Mrs Julie Rosse from the BSDHT and with support from the UCL Public Engagement Unit and was generously funded by the European Federation of Periodontology.

Professor Simon Denegri, Chair of INVOLVE and National Director of Public Participation and Engagement in Research at SUMS chaired the conference session. The film was produced by the Media Trust (an award winning professional documentary organisation. Professor Needleman has also developed web resources for public engagement with the European Federation of Periodontology which can be found at http://www.efp.org/public/engagement.html.

The film will be a central element of the European Federation of Periodontology’s campaign to raise awareness of periodontal disease.
What is public engagement?

“Public engagement describes the myriad of ways in which the activity and benefits of periodontal health can be shared with the public. Engagement is by definition a two-way process, involving interaction and listening, with the goal of generating mutual benefit.”

(Modified from National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement www.publicengagement.ac.uk)

There is a diversity of approaches to PE but the key is that it is two-way and as a result all parties learn and influence each other. The result can achieve profound changes in views, knowledge and understanding. This can be far more effective than standard one-way methods alone such as giving presentations.

Who are the public?

This includes patients and people at risk of developing periodontal diseases but also a much broader group including those involved more widely in healthcare (e.g. physicians, nurses, pharmacists), healthcare funders and policy makers, industry and the media.

Types of public engagement activities

There are many types of activities and events and these might include:

More formal: interactive workshops, focus groups, online projects, working with the media, the public, patients as research collaborators/advisors (as opposed to participants of research)

Less formal: participating in science festivals, social media projects, comedy nights, events in medical practices and pharmacies.

Public engagement is not defined by the type of project but by the shared learning and experience. There is therefore huge potential to be creative outside of traditional methods and settings that we might normally consider for education. The key is to identify who you want to engage with, the aim of the engagement (how you and the public might benefit) and how to evaluate whether you achieved your aims.

EFP project: The Sound of Periodontitis

The EFP have funded an innovative project for EuroPerio8 in London. The aim was to produce a film telling the story of the patient’s experience of periodontitis. Since this condition is often labelled ‘silent’ the film gives patients a voice to describe the profound impact of the disease on their lives, the experiences of treatment and living with a chronic condition and the improvements to their lives from successful treatment. The film was first shown at EuroPerio8. The project was a collaboration between the British Society of Periodontology and the British Society for Dental Hygiene and Therapy and led by UCL Eastman Dental Institute with support from the UCL Public Engagement Unit. Please view the film and complete the very brief survey at the end to tell us your thoughts.
If you could sum up a periodontist using just one word, it would have to be gums. If you sum up a PR & marketing person, it would be words. Almost everything I do each day revolves around the English language. Writing for websites, social media, blogs, articles and press releases to name just a few. You just couldn’t do this without a love of writing (well you could, but you’d be really fed up).

I’ve been involved in PR and marketing for 30 years - with 26 of them working for myself. I work with a regular 10 - 12 clients every month, each with their own objectives and goals that I help them meet. The clients range from the BSP and EFP, The Open University, BPP University, Age UK through to owner-managed businesses working in a variety of sectors – currently including an accountancy firm, two garden centres and computer software company.

I was heavily involved in the PR for EuroPerio8 which was a great buzz. My job was to get the press to attend and encourage them to write lots of positive things about the event, perio and people involved. Imagine coordinating 100+ speakers with 120+ journalists, all from different parts of the globe, all with demanding and busy diaries! It was a huge success thanks to Francis Hughes and his ultra-efficient organisers, Mondial. For my part I was delighted with those who came along, held interviews and put it all in print and online for us to circulate.

On a more day-to-day basis I might update my clients’ social media, create a weekly blog, refresh websites, write press releases and articles, organise photo shoots and produce electronic newsletters. I usually have several projects on the go – events, new websites, planning – and that keeps it interesting. I especially love branding – making sure an organisation is properly ‘dressed’ and well-presented.

I am highly organised and that is a key area of the job where the stereotypical creative side of the brain has to be kept in check. As well as needing imagination and vision, PR and marketing follows strict timetables, schedules and deadlines so you have to have a little OCD in your soul to see projects through to completion.

Although being in front of clients and journalists is great, I am very content working in my home office, being productive and getting through my ‘to do’ lists. The balance is vital and it would be very easy to work in isolation (with email and Skype being so accessible) but nothing will ever take the place of real, face-to-face meetings - that’s where all the good stuff happens.

When I’m not working, I’m usually with my family - partner Chris, Max (19), Hattie (17), Ruby (8) - and Paddy our great, lumbering German Shepherd dog. Happily, my downtime consists mainly of dog walks where the village pub is an inevitable destination.

I love meeting people, getting energised and enthusiastic about their projects and helping them understand what is possible through PR and marketing activity. There’s a lot that can be achieved for very little outlay in this digital era. It’s also easier to be accountable as activity can be monitored and tracked. That’s the main way the role has changed over the past 2 or 3 decades (I have to say that quickly so I don’t feel so old). That, and way less print. Fewer magazines, publications, newsletters and brochures.

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A day in the life of...
Written by Andrea Williams, BSP PR & Marketing

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Monday 1st June 2015 – the first day of summer – and there is a 35mph gale blowing, its really cold and the driving rain is travelling almost horizontally over the Thames Estuary and East London. Tuesday 2nd June its not much better as the EuroPerio committee sit down at ExCel London for their final review before the start of proceedings. What could possibly go wrong? (There’s always something that doesn’t run to plan, your EP8 Chair is thinking). And then at around midday on Wednesday 3rd June the rain has stopped, the sun magically emerges and takes up residence for the rest of a delightfully warm week. Let EuroPerio8 commence!

The BSP had bid to host EuroPerio meetings 3 previous times before finally it arrives in London. My own involvement with this project goes back nearly 13 years when we first bid to host EuroPerio in 2002 for EP6 in 2009. 2012 was out of the question, with the Olympics, so we dusted down our bid documents, and finally won the bid to host EP8 at ExCel London 2015; and now it had arrived! I had discovered that I was a bit of a control freak in picturing how it should all be and my head felt it might explode from every tiny detail I was carrying; now we would find out how it would actually be.

Wednesday afternoon proved to be a barnstorming start to proceedings; the venue looked fantastic with signage, branding and the room set ups meaning we really did own ExCel for a few days. The Public Engagement Session, driven by Ian Needleman - and a real BSP baby, was brilliantly received by the packed audience (many of whom had not really understood what relevance public and patient engagement had to Periodontology until the event). It set the tone for the meeting in really getting people talking about important topics within our subject.

To my relief, the opening ceremony ran without a hitch and the show was really on the road. Personally I made it through Wednesday and Thursday largely on adrenaline but did not really yet manage to sit back to engage with much of the Scientific Programme despite the great array of speakers on display.

In fact during the meeting, I heard many fantastic talks – inspiring clinical presentations, superb cutting edge science, great authoritative topic reviews and some excellent industry-sponsored symposia. It would be inviastic of me to pick out any particular ones, particularly as I also missed too many, but no doubt all the attendees will have their own favourites. I was particularly struck by the quality of the presentations and the effort that speakers had gone to. Many delegates do not realise that all the speakers at EuroPerio, many of whom can command large fees on the international lecture circuits, receive only their expenses and hospitality at the conference, which tells us much about the importance and esteem that the EuroPerio conferences command. Of the 102 speakers originally invited, only 1 was unable to accept our invitation, for health reasons.

There was an extraordinary vibe through out the conference – the energy and enthusiasm from delegates was palpable throughout and the parallel sessions were always packed. The innovation of the E-Poster lounge, something we thought might be a big risk, seemed to be very popular and well received. Delegates were happy, speakers were happy, the exhibitors were happy (and therefore the organisers were happy!). They packed the sessions during the day, and partied well into the evenings.

And then in a flash, it was all over. 3 great days had come and gone. I had to return to ExCel briefly on Sunday morning to pick up a few things, and it was almost as if it had never happened. The exhibition areas had been returned to vast empty halls overnight, and only the odd yellow EuroPerio sign remained to suggest that 10 000 people had been buzzing at EuroPerio there the day before.

So what of the legacy of EuroPerio coming to London? The meeting seemed to have left a great impression on delegates: of the BSP, of London, of the UK and of the EFP. Within the UK the BSP have benefited nationally within the profession and beyond and the profile of Periodontology and the BSP has been significantly boosted by hosting this event. The legacy for the BSP opens the opportunities for new initiatives, starting with an ongoing commitment to patient and public involvement and continuing with the opportunity for increased press and PR management. Our standing has probably never been so high within the EFP. Our partnership with the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy (BSDHT) in putting this together was most fruitful and rewarding and I hope it will open up the possibility of further collaborations between the BSP and BSDHT in all sorts of ways in the future.

For me it was an extraordinary honour and privilege to have been able to play such a significant part in this event. The extraordinary number of people who worked together to make it happen are too numerous to mention here, but it was great fun on the way to putting this all together. I hope you enjoyed it too!
Ignorance more frequently begets confidence than does knowledge: it is those who know little and not those who know much, who so positively assert that this or that problem will never be solved by science.

Charles Darwin

Please join us in 2016 in the city of dreaming spires, of thinkers, innovators and the birthplace of Cochrane, for what I’m sure will be a unique meeting, to think outside the box and seek solutions, with a dazzling array of national and international speakers.

Phil Ower, President Elect, BSP
Evolution... Revolution... Solutions in PERIO

There’s so much to think about...

- Evolutionary medicine and dentistry
- Bacteria vs host
- Surgical decision-making
- Teeth vs implants revisited
- The human microbiome: symbiosis and dysbiosis
- Chronic diseases and ‘old friends’
- Hygiene and human behaviour
- Perio in general practice
- Perio regeneration - techniques and technologies
- Promicrobials: a paradigm shift?
- The systemic antimicrobial debate
- Root surface management

A dazzling array of speakers from all over the world!

- Professor Mike Curtis (UK)
- Dr Val Curtis (UK)
- Professor Niklaus Lang (CH)
- Professor Angelo Mariotti (USA)
- Professor Randolph Nesse (USA)
- Dr Neil Paterson (UK)
- Dr Raj Rattan (UK)
- Professor Graham Rook (UK)
- Dr Shazad Saleem (UK)
- Professor Aubrey Sheiham (UK)
- Dr Jean Suvan (UK)
- Professor Wim Teughels (BEL)
- Professor Cristiano Tomasi (SWE)
- Professor Maurizio Tonetti (IT)
- Professor Leonardo Trombelli (IT)

PLUS

- Communication and motivational interviewing workshops
- Conference Dinner at Magdalen College
- ‘Perio Question Time’ in the historic Oxford Union
- Poster Competition - AGM - SWF Prize

Spring Meeting
7-9 April 2016
Oxford, UK
## Awards and Prizes 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Title of Entry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize</strong></td>
<td>Phillipa White (Birmingham)</td>
<td>The interaction between Periodontal bacterial species and neutrophil Extracellular Traps in Periodontitis</td>
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| **Frank Ashley Undergraduate Prize** | 1. Danny Watts (UCLan) 2. Kalpesh Prajapat (Liverpool) | 1. “Is periodontal disease a risk factor for the development of medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw (MRONJ)?”  
2. “Denteeth: Aiming to be the world’s first educational oral hygiene and health application to offer rewards.” |
| **Clinical Fellowship Award**        | Luigi Nibali (Eastman Dental Institution)   | Study in the University of Michigan, USA |
| **Audit Award**                      | 1. David Curan (Glasgow) 2. Satnum Virdee (Leeds) | 1. Radiographic Periodontal Assessment - the recording of periodontal status in routine intra-oral radiographs.  
2. Denteeth: Aiming to be the world’s first educational oral hygiene and health application to offer rewards. |

### REGIONAL LECTURES - YORK

**Diagnosis of Periodontal Diseases**  
- Dr Margaret Kellett  
  “Love the Gums You’re With”: Periodontal Health and Systemic Health  
- Dr Kathryn Durey

**DATE:** Wednesday 28 October 2015  
**WHERE:** York Marriott Hotel, Tadcaster Road, YORK, YO24 1QQ  
**TIME:** 18:15 Registration & light refreshments  
19:00 Presentations  
21:00 Close

### REGIONAL LECTURES - LEICESTER

**Per-implant Infections, Diagnosis & Treatment**  
- Dr Paul Weston  
  Re-covering from Recession  
- Dr Rajan Narsi

**DATE:** Wednesday 18 November 2015  
**WHERE:** Leicester Marriott Hotel, Smith Way, Greve Park, LEICESTER LE19 1SW  
**TIME:** 18:15 Registration & light refreshments  
19:00 Presentations  
21:00 Close

Further information & to book: [www.bsperio.org.uk](http://www.bsperio.org.uk)
The aim of the visit was to get inside knowledge from a centre of excellence in Periodontology, led by an expert clinical Periodontist and researcher (Prof. Giannobile). Specific educational outcomes were to obtain knowledge of a new clinical and academic setting in a centre of excellence in Periodontology, to expand my knowledge on the role of stem cells and collagenscaffolds, to learn new laboratory techniques and to explore common areas of research interest and plan possible research collaborations.

During my stay I attended the undergraduate and postgraduate clinics and had the possibility to interact with students and staff members involved in complex clinical activities. I was also able to learn how the postgraduate perio program was run (under the supervision of Dr. Hom-Lay Wang) and gave some lectures to the Periodontology postgraduate students. I had the opportunity to observe some of the clinical procedures including hard tissue and soft tissue grafting and implant surgery, including the use of some biomaterials not currently marketed in Europe. The biomaterials used include allografts, such as cortical particles or mineralized ground cortical, bovine membranes, BMP-2 (in liquid form, used with a collagen sponge) and recombinant PDGF + alloplast. A big difference with our healthcare service was that all patients attending the clinic were private paying patients (or insured).

From a research standpoint I mainly collaborated with Prof. Giannobile’s lab group, consisting of staff members and very active PhD students. The main research drive is directed towards exploring the potential of scaffolds and gene therapy for periodontal tissue engineering. They are currently performing laboratory and ‘ex vivo’ studies using adenoviruses as vectors of PDGF gene therapy (attached to different surfaces by complex chemical procedures at nanometer level). This procedure does not affect daughter cells, so it is only active for a few weeks during the initial periodontal regeneration stages. Gene therapy is being experimented within the context of scaffolds, which are 3d-printed for cellular guidance. The latest generation of scaffolds consist of a pillar part with no porosity and porous base and offer the advantage of increased resolution, more porosity, closer pores for better cell guidance and faster resorption.

During the stay, I explored potential collaborations on gene therapy studies and I managed to collaborate on a review of periodontal regeneration/tissue engineering led by Prof. Giannobile, which has now been submitted for publication. Overall, this was a very formative and important experience which will certainly have an impact in my future clinical and research activities.
Out and About with the BSP admin team...

By Helen Cobley, Executive General Manager

Another busy year for the BSP team despite the fact that there has been no major conference of our own this year! There have been 2 Regional Events in March and we have again supported the Dentistry Show in April, the BDA Annual Conference in May and the BDIA Dental Showcase in October. Like the BSP, the British Society of Dental Hygienists and Therapists have not hosted their Oral Conference this year, lending their full support to EuroPerio8.

The first Regional Meeting was hosted by the School of Dentistry at UCLan. This was our third visit to Preston and as usual we are very grateful to Ian Burn and his team who always make us feel very welcome and a good attendance is guaranteed both at the main site and also in satellite Dental Education Centres. Professor Val Clercough and Dr Gareth Brock gave lectures entitled “Diabetes – periodontal disease link and the implications for dental practice” and “Chocolate and red wine…the secret to periodontal health?” respectively.

The following week there was a Regional Meeting in Bournemouth with speakers Dr Mary Gibbon and Dr Rajiv Patel. Their lectures were entitled “Get inside your patients’ heads: how to make ‘perio’ work in practice” and “The Periodontal-Restorative dentistry interface” respectively.

The Dentistry Show in April was an extremely well attended event in Birmingham where the BSP hosted the Periolounge. Speakers included Dr Ian Dunn, Dr Paul Baker and Dr Shekha Bhava. Dr Philip Grene introduced the speakers and the lounge was packed to capacity for each lecture.

In May Ghilaine, Conference & Events Manager, and I were off to Manchester to fly the BSP flag at the BDA Annual Conference. This was extremely well attended especially by young practitioners starting out in their careers. There was a lot of interest in the BSP and membership as well as EuroPerio8.

In June it was the big one! EuroPerio8 had finally arrived and what an event it was…….. the BSP had a stand in the EFP Village made up of all the member Societies of the EFP and there was a truly great atmosphere there. We had a lot of fun catching up with our colleagues from around Europe as well as signing up over 20 new members – including our first members from Russia and Lebanon!

Later in the year, and after you receive this Newsletter, we will be flying the flag again at the BDIA Dental Showcase in Birmingham as well as holding Regional Events in York on 28 October and Leicester on 18 November. (See flyers for full details)

Next year will be back to normal and we are looking forward very much to seeing everyone in Oxford 07 – 09 April. Make it a date not to be missed!

The next round of Regional Events is being planned and hopefully will include a venue near to you! A big thank you from Ghilaine and Helen to everyone who helps make these events happen.

Thank you for all your support this year. It has been a fantastic year for the Society and we have now passed the 1000 members mark – 1063 to be precise! One of many reasons for the Society to celebrate and look forward to a bright 2016!

Early Career Group (ECG)

Dr Rajiv Patel

Since its formation last year, the Early Career Group has continued to make strides in developing its membership and strategy to support the needs and interests of dentists and hygienists in the early stages of their career with an interest in periodontology.

Though the group itself is in its early stages, we were well represented at the recent EuroPerio8 conference. Our very own Dr Rajan Nansi had the considerable honour of being the British flag bearer during the Olympic style opening ceremony. All who witnessed it would no doubt confirm he carried out his duties with vigour and aplomb!

In and amongst the very many Sponsors parties taking place at EuroPerio8, we were pleased to be able to hold our own dinner, which was well attended. Great food and company was only enhanced by the fantastic views of planes descending into the setting sun over the river Thames. Many thanks to Dr Manoj Tank for organising a lovely evening. It was great to meet so many enthusiastic budding periodontists. We certainly hope to build on the success of this and previous social events at future BSP meetings.

Behind the scenes, work has been continuing to get the first ECG event up and underway. A two day hands on workshop on muco-gingival surgeries will be running this autumn. We hope to start advertising details for what promises to be a fantastic couple of days very soon; keep your eyes peeled!

Details of this and upcoming ECG events will be available on the Early Career Group Facebook page. It’s also a great way to get in contact with the committee should you wish to raise awareness of subjects you feel the ECG may be able to help with.

It’s been a promising first year and we’re looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our events this year.
The total membership has increased since last year, with at present 1063 members, up from 994 last year. The membership currently comprises: 12 Honorary Members, 1 Emeritus Member, 699 Full Dentist members, 181 Dental Hygienists/Dental Therapists, 69 Postgraduate/SpR, 64 First 4 Years after Graduation, 11 Undergraduates and 26 Associate Retired members.

### Membership Statistics

- Full Members 699 (including 67 overseas members)
- Postgraduate/SpR 69
- Associate Retired 26
- Dental Hygienist/Dental Therapist 181
- First Four Years 64
- Undergraduate 11
- Honorary 12
- Emeritus 1

Total 1063

### Subscriptions for 2016

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<tr>
<td>Members must be registered in the Medical or Dentists’ Register or hold such qualification as Council approve</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Four Years after Graduation Reduced rate prior to entry onto Dentists’ Register or ORE or equivalent passed</td>
<td>£93</td>
<td>£152</td>
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<tr>
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<td>A member of a European Society who already subscribes to the electronic Journal of Clinical Periodontology</td>
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<td>A dental practitioner who has retired from practice - NO JCP</td>
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### Caption Competition

Last year’s caption competition was won by Ian Dunn (Hon Editor) with:

"Strictly Gum Dancing"

This year’s caption competition comes from The Honorary Editor. Emailed submissions should be sent to Ian Dunn dunnian@me.com and his decision is final!
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Dr Anu Tugnait

Contact Details

Helen Cobley
Executive General Manager
British Society of Periodontology
PO BOX 228
Bubwith
SELBY
YO8 1EY
Tel/Fax: 0844 335 1915
Email: admin@bsperio.org.uk

This newsletter was prepared by the Honorary Editor
Dr Ian Dunn
Rose Lane Dental Practice
Rose Lane
Mossley Hill
LIVERPOOL
Merseyside
L18 BAG
Email: ian@purelyperio.co.uk
Web: http://www.purelyperio.co.uk

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I.L.C.Chapple@bham.ac.uk
dv.clerehugh@leeds.ac.uk
n.donos@eastman.ucl.ac.uk
p.hreasman@ncl.ac.uk
francis.hughes@kcl.ac.uk
mark.ide@kcl.ac.uk
g.linden@qub.ac.uk
mclaughlin@cardiff.ac.uk
a.rawlinson@sheffield.ac.uk
shauna.cullshaw@glasgow.ac.uk
p.w.smith@liverpool.ac.uk
jzurdo@me.com
a.roberts@ucc.ie

Regional Reps

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periodontologist@gmail.com
marilou@ciantar.freeserve.co.uk
info@mvddentalspecialists.co.uk
ian@purelyperio.co.uk
eddiegergely@lilachousesdp.com
marybassett25@gmail.com
perioexpert@malthousedental.net
g.s.griffiths@sheffield.ac.uk
p.a.heasman@ncl.ac.uk
hamedperio@yahoo.com
m.kellett@leeds.ac.uk
monica.lee.petrie@gmail.com
smanton@mhs.net
kmporio@mthworld.com
rupandya@aol.com
k.patel@eastman.ucl.ac.uk
N-cell@p-aterson.freeserve.co.uk
p.m.preshaw@ncl.ac.uk
a.rawlinson@sheffield.ac.uk
phv@perio.co.uk
admin@dentalspecialistsmk.com
psstrand@hotmail.com
richard.talwar@talk21.com
n.x.west@bristol.ac.uk
Pweston1@btconnect.com

Henry Schein Dental is once again proud to support the BSP