In this issue...

Meet your new President 2008-9, Professor Gareth Griffiths, and find out about his front tooth! See page 7

What is the connection between Churchill’s dentures and the BSP? See page 13

Read about the BSP’s activities over the last year. See pages 2-3

Presidential Handover

Dr Graham Smart (right) hands over the President’s Badge of Office to Professor Gareth Griffiths, at the 2008 AGM in London on 26th September 2008.

A full report can be found on page 10

Spitfire display at the 2008 Spring Meeting

One of the highlights of the 2008 Spring meeting was a flying display by a WWII Spitfire.

See pages 8-9 and centre pages for a full report

Tony Naylor 1926-2008

A tribute by Dr Mark Ide to Professor Malcolm N (Tony) Naylor, who died on 15th April 2008. See page 11

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Henry Schein Minerva is once again proud to sponsor The BSP
Membership News >>>

Total membership has been static since last year with 896 members, up from 892 last year (an increase of about 0.5%), comprising 8 Honorary Members, 652 Full Members, 35 Postgraduate Members, 26 SpRs, 22 First 4 years members, 19 Associate members and 121 Hygienist/Therapist Associates. There are 112 overseas members. Although the numbers have barely changed since last year, there have been 81 new members since the AGM in 2007, with 77 resignations. Thus the number of new members is growing steadily and healthily.

2008: A Year of Big Meetings >>>

On Friday 16 November 2007, the AGM and Autumn Meeting were held at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham, as part of the first Pan Society conference (for a full report see the last issue of BSP News). The four societies involved were the British Endodontic Society, the British Society of Periodontology, the British Society for Restorative Dentistry, and the British Society for the Study of Prosthetic Dentistry. The meeting was organised jointly by the 4 societies and was widely considered to be a success. The BSP is in discussion with the other societies about repeating the event every 3 years or so. The Spring Meeting was held at the West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge from 13 to 15 April 2008 and a full report can be found in this issue of BSP News.

2009: The Year Ahead…..>>>

2008 to 2009 will again be a busy time for the Society under the new Presidency of Professor Gareth Griffiths. The 2009 Spring Meeting will take place on 13 and 14 March at Hallam University, Sheffield. The Conference Dinner will be held at the Cutlers’ Hall, a beautiful and historic building in the centre of Sheffield. The meeting will focus on aggressive periodontitis and will consider genetic susceptibility and prognosis together with the options for managing the disease using implants as well as novel treatment strategies. This will be a star-studded conference, with speakers including Professors Brägger, Tonetti, Kilian, Hughes and Hatton and Drs Nibali and Darbar.

The Autumn Meeting will be held in London on 24 and 25 September 2009, and will have the controversial theme “Plaque on Trial: does plaque really cause periodontal disease?”. More details will follow in due course.

…and a BSP First >>>

What is particularly exciting about the 2009 Spring Meeting in Sheffield is the provision of hands-on courses. There will be a Specialist level MasterClass in Microsurgery on the Thursday afternoon and Friday morning immediately before the conference. This will be held at Sheffield Dental School and will be run by Dr Hürzeler, a world-renowned expert in periodontal microsurgery. There will also be a hands-on course for GDPs, hygienists and therapists that will focus on examination and treatment planning. This is the first time that hands-on courses have been provided as part of a conference, and they are likely to be very popular indeed. We hope that this will stimulate more interest in the Society and its conferences, as well as providing excellent educational opportunities for all members of the dental team.

Prizes and Awards >>>

Dr Culshaw receives her award from President Dr Graham Smart

The Society awarded the 2008 Research Grant to Dr Culshaw of Glasgow Dental School for her project “Dissecting the role of the human Th17 cells in chronic inflammation”. There were a number of high quality entries this year and the judges were impressed by all entrants, all of whom have received feedback. The next closing date for this award is 31 March 2009.

Dr Bostanci of the Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Dentistry, London was awarded the Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize at the 2007 Autumn Scientific Meeting for her project “Novel regulators of bone resorption in periodontal disease: the molecular interplay of RANKL-OPG-TACE”.

The Society awarded the 2008 Research Grant to Dr Culshaw of Glasgow Dental School for her project “Dissecting the role of the human Th17 cells in chronic inflammation”. There were a number of high quality entries this year and the judges were impressed by all entrants, all of whom have received feedback. The next closing date for this award is 31 March 2009.

The 2008 Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize presentations took place at the Autumn Scientific Meeting and the prize was awarded to Dr Mike Millward for his project “Modulation of the host response to periodontal bacteria using a natural antioxidant.” A Certificate of Merit was awarded to Dr Louise O’Dowd for her project “Patient perspectives on the impact of periodontal disease.”

There were no applications for the Frank Ashley Undergraduate Prize this year. All members who are involved with dental schools are reminded to encourage dental students to apply for this prize, the deadline for which has been changed to 1 February to make it more useful for students who wish to apply for the prize as a means of support for an elective.

The BSP Clinical Fellowship application criteria were changed last year, with the result that there were 6 successful applicants in 2007 (Drs Perkins, Lee, Joshi, Kassenally, Nixon and Wassall). We have again changed the guidance to make the criteria more specific so we can discriminate better between applicants in the future.

We have also introduced a rapid-response audit award for members of the Society to apply for funding to support audit proposals with funding of a maximum of £500 for each project. Proposals may be submitted at any time of year. Details of all awards are available on the website.
President Thorn and His Two Roses

President Thorn and His Two Roses

Prominently in the next edition of BSP News! she has announced her retirement for 2009. Anne will feature aware that this is Anne's last year as Administrative Manager as

As usual, we hope that the BSP will be well represented at this meeting!

As all members know, the brunt of the Society's work is undertaken by Anne Hallowes, our Administrative Manager, and Ghilaine Ower, our Conference Manager. All Council colleagues would find it extremely difficult to run the Society without their advice, support and hard work. We are all acutely aware that this is Anne's last year as Administrative Manager as she has announced her retirement for 2009. Anne will feature prominently in the next edition of BSP News!

Europerio 6 in Stockholm

2009 is a Europerio year and the meeting will be held in Stockholm from 4 to 6 June. Details are at www.europerio6.net As usual, we hope that the BSP will be well represented at this meeting!
The problem of insufficient periodontal specialists in training was highlighted by Dr Viv Ward in his Presidential Address in 2004, following which discussion in Council showed that Council members were concerned about the small number of training posts available and about the challenges and barriers put in the way of those who may wish to specialise. There was concern that the financial demands placed on trainees, amongst other issues such as the image of periodontology, presented major barriers to new graduates entering a specialist programme and that the problem did not seem to affect the other monospecialities to the same extent. This was reinforced by the personal experience of Council members when talking to attendees on various postgraduate, Section 63, VT and other programmes in which they had been involved.

It was therefore felt important to investigate these issues in order to:

- Develop high quality applicants for specialist courses
- Attempt to increase the number of specialists trained and entering specialist lists by mediated entry, in order to manage the risk of a dwindling number of recognised periodontal specialists in the UK, as those who entered the specialist lists by grand-parenting approach the end of their practicing careers
- Maintain a high quality undergraduate periodontal programme across the UK, firstly to ensure students receive a good quality of education, and secondly to develop an appropriate interest in those who will be at the front line of primary and secondary dental care in the future

Following a financially successful year, Dr Viv Ward, Past President, and Dr Mark Ide, then Secretary, proposed to Council that the surplus funds should be used to determine the factors responsible for preventing qualified applicants training as periodontal specialists. They felt that if we were to help develop the specialty and ensure sufficient trainees to replace those who were retiring, it was important to address these matters, firstly by identifying the barriers. It was thought best to undertake this exercise professionally and objectively by engaging market research expertise. Council agreed to support this initiative and commissioned ASE, a market research company, to work with Drs Ward and Ide.

After initial consultation ASE developed an investigative protocol, which used focus groups followed by a web-based survey. The participants included final year students, vocational practitioners, those on specialist programmes and specialists who had completed specialist programmes.

The following is a short summary of the ASE findings:

- Undergraduate students felt that they were getting limited exposure to advanced periodontal techniques and surgery, and that they were not always seeing the positive results of their treatment.
- There was confusion about the respective roles of dentists and DCPs in providing periodontal care.
- Students’ initial exposure to patient care was often to perform non-surgical instrumentation which they found repetitive and intellectually undemanding, so they found periodontics uninteresting.
- Students often had a desire to undergo further training to develop their clinical practice, but showed confusion as to the options available, and where specialists fitted into the overall care pathway.

ASE concluded that in order to promote periodontology the following should be considered:

- Many students are motivated by the more holistic aspects of patient care in dentistry, and recognise that this is a major feature of periodontal treatment but at present this interest is not being exploited.
- Periodontology is seen as a cornerstone for effective dental care and as an important specialty.
- Vocational trainees felt that they would benefit from more exposure to periodontal specialist practice and input.
- It was apparent from the data collected that most trainees were not satisfied by the current availability of career advice from specialist societies, the Colleges and other organisations.
- Both undergraduates and VDPs were greatly interested in implant treatment, and felt that periodontists were often very well placed to deliver this and associated care.

The results of the survey were presented to Council by ASE at a special meeting arranged before the Pan-Society Meeting in November 2007. Subsequently Council had wide-ranging discussions and has developed a strategy, co-ordinated by Dr Philip Preshaw, to address the issue of the image of periodontics (see opposite page). The summary of the problem and the proposed solutions were the subject of the Teachers’ Forum held on Thursday 25th September 2008, the theme being “Specialisation in Periodontology: The present problem, suggested solutions and how should we look to the future......” There were about 75 registered delegates.

Viv Ward and Mark Ide
The following is a summary of the presentation given by Dr Philip Preshaw at the Autumn Scientific Meeting in London on 25th September 2008

As a result of the ASE findings, the BSP held an Away Day in Birmingham on 15th November 2007. Participants included Council members, teachers, specialists, practitioners and specialist trainees. Subsequently the issue was discussed at the BSP Council meeting on 11 March 2008. It was acknowledged that far too many issues had been raised than could be dealt with simultaneously and it was decided that the immediate priority was to address the image of periodontology. It was considered important for the specialty to have a more positive image if it is to be seen as an attractive career pathway for undergraduates and postgraduates. Indeed, increased recruitment of young dentists to the specialty is vital for its continued survival.

At the Teachers Forum meeting in London on 25th September 2008 the following proposals were made and subsequently discussed. The objectives were to:

- Explore perceptions of attitude towards periodontology among young dentists
- Understand the reasons for choosing perio as a specialism
- Explore what dentists consider to be appealing about perio
- Identify the barriers to choosing perio as a specialism

The following areas were identified as key targets in our efforts to improve the image of periodontology:

- BSP website
- Undergraduates
- Postgraduates
- GDPs

**Website**

The website is likely to be the first contact that many undergraduates and postgraduates will have with the Society. It needs to be eye-catching and contain useful information. Possible areas to work on include:

- Undergraduates: lecture/reading material, material on ‘a day in the life of a periodontist’ and ‘preparing for perio in practice’
- Patients pages: easy information about periodontal disease and its treatment, before and after pictures, balanced information about links between periodontal disease and systemic disease
- Member resources: regional lectures, updates to useful papers, simple link to online JCP, more clinical cases, implant guidelines
- Forum: ‘how to’ pages, commercial pages, clinical discussions, course feedback, links to sites/societies

**Dental Undergraduates**

Dental undergraduates are a key target group. Improving awareness of the BSP and the image of periodontics as a specialty could come from initiatives that directly target dental undergraduates, their teachers, or both.

- Survey: of all UK dental schools re perio teaching (last done 10 years ago)
- Outcomes of treatment: provide guidance on expected outcomes, use of indices, management of residual pockets
- Treatment planning: example treated cases with pre- and post-treatment data, plus commentaries
- Surgery: encourage schools to allow students to observe surgery, make available online or CDROM-based educational material
- Prizes: re-formulate Frank Ashley Prize criteria / deadline dates
- e.News: every 4-6 months to perio teachers to cascade to dental students, links to papers, cases, announcements, national news items

**General Dental Practitioners**

Many GDPs struggle to manage periodontal disease adequately, partly due to concerns about time and cost-effectiveness, and partly due to lack of experience and knowledge. Guidance from the BSP could address both these issues:

- Guidance: management of perio in practice, how to work better with hygienists/therapists, commission articles in popular dental press
- BSP Roadshows: roadshows for all dental team, cover ‘core values’ such as assessment, diagnosis and treatment
- N.B. At the time of writing (October 2008) the first BSP Roadshows have taken place (see pages 2-3)

**Dental Postgraduates**

Contact with, and support for, postgraduates would be coordinated regionally, using and expanding the current BSP regional representative (RR) system.

- Regional Representatives: confirm commitment of RRs, seek new RRs, re-vamp RR resource pack, construct 7 fully documented cases for RRs to use for treatment planning meetings
- VDP pack: establish VDP focus group to consider effectiveness of VDP packs and improve, continue VDP new member tracking system, update pack with details of perio training courses and update on website
Dr Elaine Giedrys-Leeper and her regional representatives have been busy restoring the BSP Roadshow, which has not been run for many years but which was once a regular feature of BSP activities. The Roadshow has the title “Core Values for Treating Patients in Practice”, covering assessment (Anthony Roberts), diagnosis (Philip Preshaw), and treatment (Phil Ower). Each presenter has only 30 minutes so the talks have to be highly focussed, allowing about 20 minutes for a panel discussion at the end. The presentations are followed by a buffet supper. The response and feedback to date has been excellent; so far the Roadshow has visited Dundee and Norwich and has been extremely well attended, with 130 delegates (a mix of dentists, hygienists/therapists and DCPs) attending the Dundee show and 60 in Norwich. There is a further show arranged for Southampton on 5th February 2009 and more are in the pipeline. It is hoped that the BSP Roadshow will attract a few new members into the Society so existing BSP members are encouraged to attend and bring their friends! Thanks are due to Anthony and the two Philips for devoting their time and energy and also to the regional representatives in the host cities. Further details can be found on the website.
The Salutary Tale of a President’s Tooth
(or how I should have had a career in international cricket!)

Dentistry or cricket? It was a difficult career choice but ironically the decision was made on the cricket pitch and it wasn’t cricket! Age 14, silly mid on in a school practice match and I took a rogue ball in the face, waking up with a crowd around me and a strange feeling in my mouth. Clearly something was not right. Hours later I found myself in casualty with an upper left central incisor fractured into the pulp and a lateral incisor with a significant dentine exposure. Fortunately the suspected fractured zygoma wasn’t and other than a few facial lacerations my only problems were dental ones.

And so I found myself at the Dental School in Cardiff at the mercy of a dental undergraduate (who were you? I’ve forgotten!). Now I had always been interested in science at school and my careers advice had been to consider medicine with no mention of dentistry. My experience at the hands of this dental student in fact eased me into a career that I hadn’t even contemplated. The “craft” side of dentistry was a strong attraction, as was the opportunity to help people, as this student was helping me. We ended up constructing a post crown on the central and doing an incisal build-up on the lateral.

Over subsequent years I had the porcelain crown replaced but that student-constructed post and core lasted over 30 years! Then about 5 years ago I became aware that something wasn’t right (no pain, just altered taste sensation) so I asked my Eastman colleague Ken Hemmings to have a look. Ken said he could not detect anything positively, but he suspected that it had a subgingival fracture. All looked fine on the radiograph so we waited to see if it would settle down, opting for the much easier “lets-see-if-it-goes-away” approach.

Well it didn’t go away and, over a surprisingly short time the Consultant in Perio developed a fat lip and in about a minute the pain turned from a dull ache to absolute agony; the pain was so acute I would have done anything to get rid of it, including having the tooth out and walking around with a gap! A course of antibiotics sorted out the symptoms but the 7mm buccal pocket told us that there probably was a root fracture. The extracted tooth revealed the truth. The extraction itself was fine, although knowing what was going on did make me a little tense! Ken did an excellent job getting it out in one piece, well two I suppose.

Being a member of staff at the Eastman has its advantages and later on the day of the extraction I had my first denture fitted.

My denture-wearing experience was good; it looked good and felt good. Obviously as the tissues healed the denture became looser and I can confirm that food-packing is extremely aggravating! However my denture had been sufficiently comfortable for me to consider this as a long-term solution, which in these days of sophisticated tooth replacement techniques surprised even me.

So I could have had an implant but I chose an adhesive bridge. Why? Because it was less invasive and my overriding feeling was to have an acceptable solution with the minimum of effort. Occasionally I get food packing under the pontic, which is irritating, then I find myself sucking air through to dislodge it – a convincing Hannibal Lecter impersonation!

So is there a moral to this tale? Well I don’t blame cricket if I am a lousy dentist, but I blame my dental problems for hampering my cricket development!

Gareth Griffiths
BSP SPRING MEETING 2008

There cannot have been many BSP meetings that have included a flying display by a wartime Spitfire and a member of Glenn Miller’s family providing the musical entertainment. That, and the setting of the American Air Museum in Duxford, prompted one former President of the Society to remark, as he was dragged reluctantly onto the coach at the end of the evening: “That was the best BSP dinner ever – and that includes my own year!” It was certainly a spectacular event (see the following pages) but this should not eclipse what was a fascinating scientific meeting with an eclectic mix of prominent speakers.

The meeting was attended by 260 delegates - 10 speakers, 130 dentist members, 23 Postgraduates members, 7 Specialist Registrar members, 6 dentist members qualified in the last four years, 31 Associate Hygienist/therapist members, 1 Associate Overseas member and 52 non-members. The dinner on the second evening of the meeting was attended by 170 guests.

The line-up of speakers included a science journalist, a microbiologist, a smoking cessation researcher, two psychologists, a litigation expert and several dental clinicians and researchers, the combination of which ensured a highly stimulating two days of debate and discussion. The setting of the West Road Concert Hall in the heart of Cambridge, a venue favoured by radio broadcasters for its superb acoustics, was just the right size and provided an intimate setting for the scientific sessions.

The meeting opened on Sunday evening with a presentation on Photodisinfection: The future of Periodontal Therapy given Dr Veronique Benhamou of Canada and this was followed by a drinks reception sponsored by Oraldent. This was a stimulating talk on a new therapeutic approach which is generating significant interest on both sides of the Atlantic.

The main meeting opened with Dr Graham Smart’s delayed Presidential Address in which he outlined the aims of his meeting over the following two days. He was followed by the first speaker, Dr Robert Matthews, a science writer and journalist with an interest in the use and abuse of statistics in medical research (Statistics – fact or fancy- or ‘Of storks and babies’). Much of what he had to say on the misuse of statistical methods was echoed by Professor Phillipe Hujoel, whose two consecutive talks (Spurious associations in periodontal epidemiology and A role for the periodontal professional in the ongoing epidemics of diabetes, stroke and heart disease?) created a great deal of debate. In particular, his comments on the possible associations between periodontal disease and a Western diet provided a new insight into a possible risk factor that is under-researched and barely understood.

The meeting closed on the second evening with a dinner attended by 170 guests. The speeches by the BSP President, Dr Graham Smart, and the BSP Treasurer, Dr Veronique Benhamou, were followed by a lively panel discussion between Drs Robert Matthews, Dr Phillipe Hujoel, Dr Andy McEwen and Dr Gernot Wimmer. The evening was capped by a drinks reception and the Ball of the Century.

The BSP SPRING MEETING 2008 was a unique and memorable event that brought together dentists from across the globe in a setting that was as historically significant as it was scientifically stimulating.
The afternoon session on the first day concentrated on three better understood risk factors and all three speakers provided a comprehensive overview of the research data relating to their subject areas. First to speak was Professor Andrew Steptoe from UCL on Depression and physical illness, followed by Professor Gernot Wimmer from Graz in Austria, speaking on Stress and periodontal disease. Both presentations dove-tailed very effectively and provided sound evidence of the effect of systemic well-being on chronic disease processes. Finally, Dr Andy McEwen, also of UCL, gave a fascinating account of Smoking – an addiction, punctuated with some truly alarming statistics and excellent video clips.

Bright and breezy the next day, Professor Hujoel gave the third of his presentations, this time on Tooth loss – epidemiology, prognosis and outcome, completing his marathon contribution to the meeting, and he was followed by Dr Robert Hoppenbrouwers, from the Dental Defence Union, on the same subject but from a medico-legal perspective (Tooth loss – the medico-legal impact).

Dental biofilms – slime, sex and subversion! was the arresting title for Professor Philip Marsh’s talk that started the final session of the meeting and his vivid descriptions of bacterial behaviour in biofilms paved the way for Professor Lynn Myers to talk about psychological barriers to patient adherence to oral hygiene advice (Compliance – how?). Many useful tips on improving adherence were on offer. Finally, former president and stalwart of the BSP, Dr Bernie Kieser (How have we become so confused?) gave a characteristically challenging presentation on areas of confusion within periodontology, highlighting research findings that are not reflected in traditional treatment methods. A more fitting close to a thought-provoking meeting could not be imagined.

The BSP is grateful to P&G Professional Oral Health, Philips Oral Healthcare and Colgate for sponsorship. Eleven trade companies took part in the trade exhibition as well as the British Society of Dental Hygienists and Therapists.
AUTUMN SCIENTIFIC MEETING – LONDON – 25-26 SEPTEMBER 2008

Teachers’ Forum

The Teachers’ Forum meeting was held at Savoy Place, London on the afternoon of 25th September 2008, chaired by Dr Wendy Turner. The theme was “Specialisation in Periodontology: The present problem, suggested solutions and how we should look to the future…” A report on this appears elsewhere in this issue of BSP News.

Following this, presentations were given by the three Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize entrants, Dr Tonnie Mulli, Dr Mike Milward and Dr Louise O’Dowd. The papers were of an extremely high standard and generated much discussion. The prize was finally awarded to Dr Mike Milward, Birmingham School of Dentistry for his presentation “Modulation of the host response to periodontal bacteria using a natural antioxidant”. A certificate of merit was awarded to Dr Louise O’Dowd.

Autumn Scientific Meeting - “From Research Concept to Clinical Application.”

During the AGM on Friday 26 September 2008 certificates were presented to Arthif Danial and Dr Mark Lappin as recipients of the 2007 Frank Ashley Undergraduate Prize and the 2007 Research Prize respectively, as reported in the last issue of BSP News. Professor Gareth Griffiths was then installed as President of the Society, and gave his presidential address entitled “Choosing a Career”, during which he shared with his audience the various choices he made from his earliest school years, which seemed to have been spent mostly on the cricket pitch, up to his present day position as Professor of Restorative Dentistry, with a special interest in Periodontology. He described how playing cricket had led to his early experience as a dental patient, which influenced his choice of career. He also discussed how he had been inspired by his teachers in periodontology and had been encouraged to become interested in research. The presentation was illustrated by many examples of past and present cricketing heroes.

The first paper of the scientific session was presented by Professor Nikos Donos on “Development of photodynamic therapy in the treatment of periodontal diseases”. He outlined the development of this technique and described a clinical trial to assess its application as an adjunct to non-surgical periodontal therapy. Professor Mark Gilthorpe’s paper “Statistical development in dental research” described how recent developments in biostatistical methods could be used in periodontal research and he illustrated barriers to the use of these methods.

The afternoon session was chaired by Professor Hubert Newman. In Professor Martin Addy’s presentation “Collaboration with industry on oral health care products: successes and failures,” he discussed funding and confidentiality issues and the need to balance the industrial with the academic contract. He also discussed publication rights and indemnity and outlined the principles of Good Clinical Practice as applied to clinical trials.

The final speaker of the session was Professor Neil Meredith who held the attention of the audience with “Innovation and entrepreneurship in dentistry – The Dragon’s Den”. He spoke with great enthusiasm and took us on the journey from concept, invention, registering a patent through to production and marketing of a product.

Following a lively panel discussion the meeting closed.

The meeting was sponsored by Listerine Clinical and P&G Professional Oral Health.

Sandra Orr
In the Spring of 2008, NICE published new guidelines on “Prophylaxis against Infective Endocarditis.” The focus was on the risks arising from dental treatment in at-risk patients and the need for prophylaxis. An extensive review of the evidence led NICE to conclude that, no patient is at risk from infective endocarditis (IE) arising from dental treatment. Therefore, no patient requires antibiotic cover. This seemingly radical, but evidenced-based outcome will have a significant impact on all aspects of dental care.

Two significant bodies provide guidelines on the need for antibiotic cover to prevent IE, the American Heart Association and the British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy. A review of these guidelines reveals a contraction of the categories of patients that need antibiotic cover prior to dental treatment, the two main categories being those with prosthetic heart valves or a previous history of IE.

In their deliberations NICE considered the role of dental-induced bacteraemia in the causality of IE, whether antibiotic cover prevents IE and whether the risks of providing antibiotic cover were greater than the risk of contracting IE.

It is recognised that everyday oral activities, such as toothbrushing and chewing, result in ‘spontaneous’ bacteraemia of the same magnitude as that arising from dental treatment. Taking this argument forward, if antibiotic cover is provided for dental treatment, then it should also be provided to prevent bacteraemia arising from chewing and toothbrushing! If the prevalence of such bacteraemia were compared to a single tooth extraction, statistics reveal that bacteraemia arising from toothbrushing and chewing is 5.4 million times more likely to cause IE than a single tooth extraction.

The efficacy of antibiotic cover to prevent IE has never been evaluated in a randomised, controlled trial. Such a trial will never be completed due to the high numbers required. Case-control studies provide information on the effectiveness of antibiotic cover and show that when cover is provided it will give, at best, 50% protection against IE. All case-control studies have failed to show a clear or positive connection between dental treatment and the development of IE.

Further questions arise from the ability of penicillin-based cover to prevent or reduce dental-induced bacteraemia. Amoxicillin alone is bactericidal against dividing bacteria and this only occurs when the bacteria have colonized the damaged heart valves. This rationale would indicate the need for cover to be provided 12-24 hours after dental treatment!

Anaphylaxis is the most serious unwanted effect arising from amoxicillin prophylaxis. Data from the USA indicates that 400 - 800 deaths are caused by penicillin-induced anaphylaxis per year; one estimate suggests that patients are five times more likely to die from an anaphylactic reaction to penicillin, than to die from contracting IE if penicillin is withheld. In addition to the risk of anaphylaxis, there are problems with the development of resistant strains and other microbiological complications.

The new NICE Guidelines are a major breakthrough, based upon sound evidence and common sense. Most will not be surprised at the outcome and for many the spectre of litigation has clouded our judgement in this area.

Professor Robin Seymour

Obituary

Professor Malcolm N (Tony) Naylor, who died on 15th April 2008, made a major contribution to the specialty of periodontology and to preventive dentistry in the UK throughout his professional life, but in addition was involved with a range of public, professional, educational and military bodies. Born in 1926, he served on HMS Suffolk during the Second World War, then studied dentistry at Birmingham. After completing 2nd BDS, Tony was awarded a Nuffield Scholarship for 2 years to obtain an intercalated Honours BSc in Physiology. This was followed by junior appointments at Birmingham and Dundee, and in 1959, Tony was appointed to the Dental Research Fellowship at Guy’s Hospital Dental School, where he would be based for the rest of his professional life. He gained his FDS and was later awarded an Honorary FDS from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. He was awarded his PhD in 1962 for his thesis ‘A Study of the Sensory Mechanisms in Human Teeth’. Tony became a Senior Lecturer and Reader before being awarded a Chair in 1970. As a clinician he specialised in periodontology but most of his subsequent research was associated with effects of fluoride on tooth decay prevalence and its metabolic pathways. Tony was appointed as an Honorary Consultant in 1966 and was Head of the Department of Periodontology and Preventive Dentistry from 1980 until his retirement in 1991. Thereafter he was an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Eastman. He remained a civil consultant dental surgeon to the Royal Navy until retirement, and was appointed the Queen’s honorary dental surgeon.

Tony was involved in the education of generations of dentists and periodontists from Guy’s and UMDS, at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, and wrote a history of the Guy’s Dental School to celebrate its centenary in 1998. He was president of the BSDR from 1990 to 1992 and President of the Section of Odontology of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1984 and 1985. He was a long term scientific advisor and editor for the BDJ (over 30 years) and after retirement chaired the Oral & Dental Research Trust.

Beyond dentistry, Tony was admitted as a Freeman of the City of London, and a layman of the Worshipful Company of Bakers, in 1981. He was involved at governor and trustee level with several schools and colleges in and around London.

His associations with the Navy and Sea Cadets (as a Council member until 1994) continued, and he spent time on his boat to the end of his life. His firm religious beliefs helped him cope with the loss of his wife, Mary in 2004, and he continued as a lay reader. Even in retirement, Tony was continually active, mixing ongoing professional interests with other aspects of his life, and continued to actively challenge dental research findings submitted by industry to support advertising of new products. He will be greatly missed by so many, both within and outside the profession, who were touched by his work and support.

Mark Ide
The new UHI School of Oral Health Science, based at the Inverness and Dumfries Dental Centres opened to students and patients on the 25th August, 2008 and will be amongst the most innovative, integrated and technologically-advanced education and treatment centres in the UK. The School offers the UHI BSc in Oral Health Sciences for hygienists and therapists, dental student outreach facilities which will be used by the Universities of Dundee and Glasgow, as well as a suite of modern laboratory and clinical training facilities for both undergraduate and postgraduate use. An additional clinical facility will provide increased patient treatment capacity for NHS dentistry in Scotland.

This unique educational partnership, integrating dental therapy students and dental students is one of the most innovative aspects of the project.

The use of cutting edge technology means that the Inverness teaching site will be linked with the Dumfries Dental Centre where one third of the UHI students and staff for this course are based. These links include video-conferencing as well as video teaching from laboratories and clinics on either site.

This immense project would not have been possible without the funding and vision of NHS Education Scotland (NES) and will go a long way towards meeting the basic oral health needs of rural populations in Scotland. In so doing, there will be significant benefits for both undergraduate and postgraduate dental education.

More on this in the next issue of BSP News.

Andrew Hall and Isobel Madden
Heads of School, UHI BSc course in Oral Health Science

BSP and Henry Schein Minerva Partnership Programme

The BSP and Henry Schein Minerva have been in partnership for three years now to bring members of the Society dental products at preferential rates.

This scheme benefits both the BSP and individual members, as well as providing Henry Schein Minerva with the opportunity to participate in BSP activities. The Society has benefited through an annual donation to the Fellowship Fund from Henry Schein.

In addition, there are specific projects on which our two organisations are co-operating that will increase the awareness of periodontology as a Speciality and promote periodontology amongst newly qualified dentists.

The scheme is a preferred purchasing programme in which members may participate. This will involve:

1. An initial meeting with a Henry Schein Minerva Consultant to set up a bespoke purchasing programme for the practice that addresses the needs of the practice and delivers recommendations on ordering procedure, product selection and a buying plan. This will be cheaper for the practice than ordering at random due to the preferential rates to which participants will be entitled.
2. A discount of 5% on handpiece and small equipment repairs.
3. A discount of 10% on preventive maintenance visits by Henry Schein technicians.
4. Free welcome pack of £300 of Henry Schein brand materials for each surgery following the Consultant’s review.

We would like to emphasise that joining this scheme is voluntary, there is no subscription, it is solely for BSP members, and will cost you less for all the products you use, not just periodontal products. At the same time, BSP charitable activities will benefit greatly at no additional cost to members. Please note that this scheme entitles a whole practice to participate provided one person is a member of the Society.

If you wish to participate, and we hope you will, please contact:
Tel: 08700 10 20 43 Fax: 0800 413 734
Email: sales@henryschein.co.uk www.henryschein.co.uk
Medcare House, Centurion Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SB
Comings and Goings

Among Council members leaving the Council this year are Professors Martin Addy and Valerie Clerehugh and Dr Philip Greene. Also leaving but not shown is Dr Paul Baker.

New to Council: Dr Isobel Madden, Dr Paul Weston and Dr Monica Lee. Not shown is President elect Professor Francis Hughes.

Sir Wilfred Fish and Churchill’s Dentures

Sale 16199 that took place on March 18th 2008 at Bonhams of London in New Bond Street contained 2 items (Lots 269 and 270) that would have been of interest to BSP members.

The lots up for auction were two letters written by Sir Winston Churchill to Sir Wilfred Fish in 1952 and 1954, when Churchill was 79 and in his third and final term as Prime Minister. He had suffered from dental problems throughout his life (as a public schoolboy at Harrow his mother had complained about how much money was being spent on his dental bills) and he records being tormented by toothache.

By his early 20s he had lost many of his front teeth, prompting the need for an upper set of dentures. Throughout his adult life Churchill was haunted by the fear of losing his ability to speak effectively, a vital attribute for any politician, and especially for one whose speaking skills were so central to his success. He also had a pronounced lisp, which later became a trademark that he wanted to preserve with his dentures. Fish, who served two terms as BSP President (1949-50 and 1973-74) had been Churchill’s dentist from at least 1936, when they corresponded about his false teeth (see the Churchill Papers). Sir Wilfred designed the dentures, which were made by his dental technician Derek Cudlipp. Churchill showed his appreciation of Fish’s denture-making skills when he sent Sir Wilfred a letter in January 1954, confirming his nomination for a knighthood (see illustration). Whether the Prime Minister’s satisfaction with his dentures had any influence over Fish’s award of a knighthood can only be speculated upon. Legend has it that when Churchill’s patience wore thin at moments of crisis, he would place his thumb against the dentures while he was wearing them and flick them against a wall.

So what did they go for in the end? That much is easy to discover: they were expected to fetch about £1,400 but were finally sold for £3,144. The purchaser? That remains a mystery, unless it was an undercover BSP member. If so, please make yourself known!

Phil Ower, BSP News Editor
In maintaining our aim of promoting periodontology, members are reminded they can now post details of independent perio-related courses on the website. If you have courses you want to advertise then please email them to me. Details of all upcoming courses and meetings can be found on the website from the front page.

The case reports section is growing and web site statistics suggest that this is a frequently visited area. We are still interested in new cases and details on submission can be found on the website. Remember a £100 honorarium is payable for each case posted.

Following the ASE report we are trying to evolve the website and we are particularly interested in developing the forum. Members are encouraged to make greater use of this facility. As always any further ideas would be gratefully received.

Regards
Liam Addy
BSP Webmaster
Email addyld@cardiff.ac.uk

Recently the front page of the BSP website was updated to make it more user-friendly and hopefully easier to navigate. As reported in the last BSP News the jobs section has proved to be very popular. Members can advertise jobs both for themselves and on behalf of non-members.

Most members are also reminded that the case reports section is growing and web site statistics suggest this is a frequently visited area. Members are reminded they can now post details of independent perio-related courses on the website. If you have courses you want to advertise then please email them to me. Details of all upcoming courses and meetings can be found on the website from the front page.

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Liam Addy
BSP Webmaster
Email addyld@cardiff.ac.uk

Caption Competition

There were 2 shining entries for the last caption competition and they win joint first place, which means the Editor loses 2 bottles of wine from his cellar:

“Yeah, we got this medal in 1998 when our President beat the Endo society’s President in the annual Pan-Society Wrestling Championships, so don’t try any funny business!”

Philip Preshaw

“Eminent Professor caught out by old superglue trick.”

Kevin Davey

This year’s competition picture was captured during the Spring Meeting at Duxford and shows former President Dr John Coventry, also former Director of the RAF School of Dental Hygiene, with his former senior tutor hygienist Freda Rimini. What can he be thinking? What is that hand doing or about to do? Whose hand is it?

Entries to the editor please at philip.ower@btopenworld.com.

Entries will not be treated in the strictest confidence. The Editor’s decision is final!

www.bsperio.org.uk
Future Meetings 2009-10

Spring Meeting 2009
13th - 14th March
Hallam University, Sheffield

"Aggressive Periodontitis"
Speakers include Professors Urs Brägger, Maurizio Tonetti, Mogens Kilian, Francis Hughes and Paul Hatton and Drs Luigi Nibali and Ulpee Darbar
plus hands-on courses for specialists and generalists
Conference Dinner - 13th March 2009 - The Cutlers’ Hall

BSP DIAMOND JUBILEE 1949 – 2009

Spring Meeting 2010
25th – 27th April
Brighton Dome

“20 years of Periodontal Regeneration – where are we now?”

Autumn Meeting 2009
24th – 25th September
Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

“Plaque On Trial – Does Plaque Really Cause Periodontal Disease?”
Diamond Jubilee Dinner, London
Money Matters

Accounts for 2007 show the healthy position of the Meetings' Account (£25,450) and the Designated Education Account (£20,534). The Midda Account with Restricted Funds will appear as such for the last time as this has now been rebadged as the Fellowship Account from 2008 onwards. The Stewardship Reserves account had a balance of £158,802 and reflected a significant income from interest (£7,000) during 2007.

The financial summary for 2007 showed a deficit of £40,459 due to a total expenditure of £259,681 outweighing the income of £219,222. A proportion of this deficit (£5,010) was a consequence of the cost of the Spring Meeting in Edinburgh (£121,672) outweighing the income from delegates subscriptions and sponsorship (£116,662). There were, however, a number of additional and significant costs during 2007 and these comprised: The ASE market research project (£9,504); Prizes awarded by the Society (£9,333); Council expenses (£9,775). The Treasurer also noted that the Society’s share of the Pan Dental Conference had been underestimated in the accounts and will help to offset any carry-over deficit in 2008.

The 2008 AGM passed the following recommendations of the Treasurer:

- To increase the basic full subscriptions for the Society in 2008-9 by £15.00
- To increase other subscriptions by £5.00
- That the Society introduces a phased subscription scheme for members joining at different times of the year. Full subscription when joining before the Spring Meeting, reduced subscription when joining between the Spring and Autumn meetings, full subscription carried forward until the end of the following year when joining after the Autumn Meeting.) Full details are available on the website.

British Society of Periodontology Council 2008 – 09

President
Senior Vice President
President Elect
Immediate Past President
Honorary Treasurer
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Assistant Secretary
Honorary Assistant Secretary (2008-09)
Honorary Editor
Commercial Liaison Officer
Webmaster
Members of Council

Representatives

Education Committee
Practitioners’ Section
Teachers’ Forum
European Federation of Periodontology
Specialist Registrars

Full Members – Dentists

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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Dentists - electronic and printed journal</td>
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<td>Postgraduates* - electronic journal only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postgraduates* - electronic and printed journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist registrar - electronic journal only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist registrar - electronic and printed journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>First 4 years after graduation - electronic journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>First 4 years after graduation - electronic and printed journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low income countries - electronic and printed journals</td>
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Associates

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<td>Members who receive the JCP through their national society</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSDHT/BADT members – basic subscription</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSDHT/BADT members – with electronic journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered DCP – basic subscription</td>
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<td>Dental undergraduate at UK Dental Schools – with electronic journal</td>
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<td>Honorary members</td>
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* See website for details