

**The BDJ news page**

The BDJ accepts all general news items that might interest our readers. Press releases or articles should not exceed 500 words and may be edited. Please include a colour photograph if possible. As space for photographs is limited, priority will be given to good quality and/or interesting pictures.

Please send BDJ news items to Sarah Murnal.

**BDA AGM**

Notice is hereby given that an Annual General Meeting of Members of the British Dental Association will be held at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham at 4.30pm, 7 April 2000 to transact the following business:

**Ordinary business**

1. To receive and consider the audited accounts for the financial year ended 30 September 1999 and the report of the directors and of the auditors (to be published as a supplement to the March edition of BDA News).
2. To re-appoint Messrs Begbies, chartered accountants, as auditors and to authorize the Executive Board to fix their remuneration.
3. To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolutions recommended to the meeting by the Representative Body:
  - a) That P B F Swiss be elected President for 2001 - 2002;
  - b) That the 2001 Annual General Meeting be held in Harrogate.
4. Any other recommendation of the Representative Body.

Dated this day the 11 March 2000, by order of the Representative Body:

J M G Hunt  
 Chief Executive and Secretary  
 64 Wimpole Street  
 London  
 W1M 8AL

**Correction**

We apologise for the mis-spelling of Professor Crispian Scully's name on page 161 of the last issue of the BDJ.

**Gene Breakthrough**



*L to R (standing):* Professor Andrew Read, Mr Joseph Wood, Dr Nalin Thakker, Dr Michael Pemberton, Professor Philip Sloan, Professor Michael Dixon.

*L to R (sitting):* Dr Jacqueline James, Dr Carmel Toomes, Miss Chelsee Hewitt, Dr Julie Wu.

An international team of researchers led by Dr Nalin Thakker and his colleagues at the University of Manchester and Central Manchester Healthcare Trust, have identified the gene mutation responsible for Papillon-Lefevre Syndrome (PLS), a condition characterized by childhood periodontitis and early tooth loss. Their findings were published in the December 3rd issue of Nature Genetics, (23: 421-4). The PLS gene encodes a lysosomal protease.

Recognition of its function is a major step forwards towards understanding how the body defends itself against periodontal pathogens.

**ACSRD Award**

The Associations of Consultants and Specialists in Restorative Dentistry Traveling Fellowship 1999, was awarded to Mr Kalpesh Patel - Specialist Registrar in restorative dentistry at the Eastman Dental Institute, London.

He visited the Craniofacial Osseointegration Maxillofacial Prosthodontic Rehabilitation Unit (COMPRU) in Canada, which has proven to be a beneficial experience.

*Right:* - Mr Kalpesh Patel receiving the award from Dr Jeremy Shaw - Chairman of ACSR.



**Body found in stream**

A body was found in a stream at Lewes on Tuesday 4th January 2000 and the cause of death was bronchopneumonia.

The dental records indicate that there are several unusual features:

1. The upper six anterior teeth exhibited extreme attrition/erosion on their buccal surfaces and this condition also affected the lower left canine tooth. His close acquaintances may well have noticed that his upper teeth were worn down and discoloured.
2. There was a large diastema between his upper central incisors.
3. Both lower wisdom teeth were unerupted but only just covered.

If you have any information please telephone Mrs A. Warner or Mr Foster at Hailsham Police Station on 01323 414 067.

