



DENTAL AMBASSADORS RECORD RAP TO PROMOTE ORAL HEALTH

A team of adults with learning disabilities has recorded a rap to promote important messages about oral health.

Six people from CHAMPs – Cornwall Health and Making Partnerships – developed the 'Brush DJ' rap to the tune of the Robbie Williams song 'Rock DJ' and recorded it at the studios of Plymouth Music Zone.

The team, part of health promotion for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, came up with the idea while completing a dental ambassadors training course developed by the Community Engagement Team at Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise (PDSE).

They spent several weeks learning from PDSE experts about oral hygiene, tooth brushing, the importance of fluoride, healthy eating, reducing sugar intake and accessing dental care.

The dental ambassadors came up with

the rap idea while working on presentations with activities for audiences to help them understand key oral health messages.

As part of their ongoing work across Cornwall, the CHAMPs take oral health knowledge to special schools, health centres and adults with learning disabilities at colleges and workplaces.

The dental ambassador scheme, which is supported by Henry Schein, offers people with learning disabilities the understanding, awareness and confidence to encourage their peers to adopt better oral hygiene and make regular visits to the dentist.

CHAMPs helps to make sure people with a learning disability and/or autistic spectrum condition get equal access to health services. Its main activities are checking health services, raising awareness of learning disabilities and promoting healthy lifestyles.

DCPs must renew their registration by 31 July

The window for dental care professionals (DCPs) to renew their registration has opened and will close at midnight on 31 July 2017.

The easiest way to do this is to use eGDC, where registrants can make their Annual Retention Fee (ARF) payment, declare indemnity and log continuing professional development (CPD) hours. You can also update your personal details.

Alternatively, renewal can be done using the automated telephone line (0800 197 4610) or by post using the business return envelope included in the notification letters, which were posted out in June.

To renew registration, registrants must pay the ARF, declare indemnity and update CPD hours, if it's the end of the cycle. Late payment or not declaring indemnity could result in being removed from the register and ceasing working as a DCP.

The ARF for DCPs for the period 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 is £116.

SCHEME FOSTERS CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND DENTAL NURSES

The British Association of Dental Nurses (BADN) is re-launching its Affiliates Scheme, now re-named the Dental Industry Affiliate Scheme.

The Scheme is designed to foster closer links between dental industry companies and dental nurses.

BADN President Jane Dalgarno said: 'Many dental industry companies are still unaware of the vital role of the dental nurse within the dental team. Our Scheme is

designed to enlighten those companies on the professionalism and varied responsibilities of the registered dental nurse, and to provide a conduit between dental nurses and dental industry companies.'

Dental industry companies participating in the Scheme will have access to the BADN's quarterly digital publication, *The British Dental Nurses' Journal*, special affiliate advertising rates in the Journal, a company profile on BADN's website www.badn.org.uk

with links to their own site, and opportunities to promote their products and special offers through BADN's communication channels. Affiliate companies will also be able to display a Dental Industry Affiliate version of the BADN logo to indicate that they recognise dental nurses as professionals and as valued members of the dental team.

More information on the Scheme, and application forms, are available from the BADN Chief Executive at pam@badn.org.uk.