

Career stories



When dental therapist Karenn, from Mexico, received a BSDHT endorsed student prize when she graduated from the University of Plymouth, she admits she was probably more excited to receive two tickets to a gala dinner than to the BSDHT's Oral Health Conference itself.

'I'm mad about fashion, dressing up, wearing heels, and all that sexy stuff,' says Karenn in her career story this month. And who can blame her?

This issue of *BDJ Team* is focused on continuing education, and dressing up a topic that is, on the face of it, pretty dry and not very sexy, presented us with a challenge.

We have included an article exploring what the GDC really does, another one asking, 'what is the BDA CPD Hub?' and a further piece recapping the GDC's CPD requirements.

However, we also hear how Karenn (mentioned earlier) met her future husband on a cruise ship and is going from strength to strength in her dental career while also baking one-metre-long cakes...

Siobhán Kelleher is the ultimate high-flyer, a dental hygienist with a passion for learning, coaching and sharing her expertise with other dental professionals.

Letitia Choudhury has spent over 30 years in dentistry and is the first dental nurse to be an NHSE Dental Clinical Leadership Fellow.

Cover star, dental therapist Hayley has overcome personal struggles and challenges to gain new confidence and is now the happiest she has ever been.

Nicola McIntosh, current Chair of the Society of British Dental Nurses, recounts her extraordinary career path through academia as a mature student.

I am excited about this issue of *BDJ Team* and all the stories and advice it contains. To gain your one hour of CPD this month, we also have part 5 in our neurodiversity and dentistry series, 'Diverse minds in the dental profession', which includes the revealing and engaging perspectives of a selection of neurodiverse dental professionals, including one of the authors.

Hopefully, you will enjoy reading this final issue of *BDJ Team* this year as you continue on your own career path. See you in 2024.

Kate

Kate Quinlan
Editor
k.quinlan@nature.com

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41407-023-2032-x>



THE TEAM

Cover
©Hayley Cokayne
Editor-in-Chief
Stephen Hancocks OBE
Editor
Kate Quinlan

Production
Art Editor: Melissa Cassem
Production Editor: Sandra Murrell

Advertising
Account Manager:
Paul Darragh, +44 (0)20 7014 4122
paul.darragh@springernature.com

Publishing
Publisher: Rebecca Shreeve
British Dental Journal
The Campus
4 Crinan Street
London N1 9XW

© **British Dental Association** 2023. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by

any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the British Dental Journal.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the British Dental Association or the editor. Appearance of an advertisement does not indicate BDA approval of the product or service.