

## DIARY

### Natural Restorations Using Composite Resin (BACD)

Date: 15 March 2013  
Telephone: 020 7612 4166  
www.bacd.com

### BLOS spring meeting

Date: 16 March 2013  
Venue: Four Seasons, Canary Wharf  
www.blos.co.uk

### Denplan NHS Viewpoint Seminars

Date and venue:  
20 March 2013,  
Hilton Dartford Bridge, Dartford  
25 March 2013,  
Thorpe Park Hotel, Leeds  
26 March 2013,  
Kilworth House Hotel, Leics  
16 April 2013, Village Hotel, Cardiff  
17 April 2013, Holiday Inn,  
Basingstoke  
30 April 2013, Copthorne Hotel,  
Manchester  
1 May 2013, Newcastle Marriott  
Metrocentre, Gateshead  
Email: [eventsandtraining@denplan.co.uk](mailto:eventsandtraining@denplan.co.uk)  
www.nhsviewpoint.co.uk

### Contemporary Oral Medicine: An interactive workshop on evidence-based management

Date: 23 March 2013  
Venue: Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London  
Telephone: 020 7290 3948  
www.rsm.ac.uk/academ/odd08.php

### Dental Erosion: Restorative Management of the Worn Dentition

Date: 22 March 2013  
Location: Chandos House, London  
www.sheppersoneducation.com/London.html

### The Dental Therapist: free lecture

Dates and venues:  
8 April 2013, 5.45-7.45pm,  
Henry Schein Showroom, Birstall, Leeds  
15 April 2013, 5.45-7.45pm,  
Henry Schein Showroom, Cardiff  
18 April 2013, 6-8pm,  
Henry Schein Showroom,  
Marble Arch, London  
Email: [info@dentaltherapistsrock.co.uk](mailto:info@dentaltherapistsrock.co.uk)  
www.dentaltherapistsrock.co.uk

### British Dental Conference & Exhibition 2013

Date: 25-27 April 2013  
Venue: ExCel London  
www.bda.org/conference

## PRACTICES MUST ENGAGE WITH THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Dental practices must equip themselves to be better protected against new employment legislation and social media trends, warns employment specialist Amanda Pillinger of MFG Solicitors in the Midlands.

'High profile changes to the qualifying period for unfair dismissal claims were brought in during spring 2012,' said Ms Pillinger. 'The qualifying period is now doubled to two years and was designed to help small businesses, encourage them to recruit more staff and avoid around 2,000 tribunals every year.

'However, experience has shown that employees determined to make a claim against their employer will stop at nothing to overcome this hurdle and find other tactics such as discrimination claims or whistleblowing – two areas which do not need a qualifying period.'

Ms Pillinger also said there are examples in recent months of inappropriate comments being made by workers on social networking sites – posts which have damaged the reputation of businesses.

'A range of procedures, up-to-date contracts and even an employee handbook can be effective tools for a later date – especially if a practice employee has signed and understood the detail. Those who have taken time to protect their practice by understanding legislation, putting procedures in place and having constant dialogue with their employees have found 2012 much easier on the HR front than those who haven't engaged with the changing employment landscape.'

## FROM THE MIDDLE EAST TO THE MIDLANDS

The University of Birmingham School of Dentistry has hosted a Saudi Dental College UK study tour headed by representatives from the National Commission for Academic Accreditation and Assessment (NCAAA). Delegates from 12 of the 18 colleges of dentistry in Saudi Arabia made the trip.

The party were welcomed to the UK by some of our worst weather in years, but received a warm welcome from staff and students.

The aim of the tour was for the delegation to learn about the School of Dentistry's quality assurance systems and accreditation in the hope of developing further collaboration and partnership opportunities. During the visit there was a frank and useful exchange of views on all aspects of dental education.

The visit was organised by the British Council and the delegation also visited Manchester, Leeds and Central Lancashire (UCLan) dental schools.

## ROAMING GRADUATE POSITIONS CREATED

Integrated Dental Holdings (IDH) has announced the creation of a new type of dentistry role aimed at graduate dentists, offering free continuing professional development (CPD) training and realistic UDA targets to ease the graduates into the workplace.

The Regional Dentist at IDH will put graduates into roaming positions across the country, gaining experience with the largest dental employer in the UK. This will allow them to work in a variety of practices with different clinicians during a year-long contract before they have the opportunity to move into self-employed Associate positions within the business.

The successful applicants will be given a driving allowance to cover their travel costs as well as mentoring from clinicians and resourcing experts at IDH to help them with the practicalities of the role.

Anyone interested in applying for the Regional Dentist Programme can contact the IDH resourcing team via <http://idh-group.co.uk/contact-us> or by calling 0845 647 7364.



Mike Milward and Damien Walmsley (front) of the University of Birmingham School of Dentistry with the Saudi visitors