

BRITISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION (THE 'COMPANY') (REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES WITH COMPANY NUMBER 14161)

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the British Dental Association will be held at 9.30 am on Thursday 10 April 2014 in the Exchange Auditorium of the Manchester Central Convention Complex, Petersfield, M2 3GX, for transaction of the following business:

### ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

1. To receive and adopt the Company's financial statements for year ended 30 September 2013, including the directors' and auditors' reports, as included in the 7 March 2014 edition of the *British Dental Journal*
2. To reappoint BDO Stoy Hayward LLP ('BDO') as the Company's auditors to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration
3. That Professor Nairn Wilson be elected President for 2015–2016
4. To decide the time and date of the next Annual General Meeting in 2015.

Dated 7 March 2014

BY ORDER OF THE PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Registered Office:

64 Wimpole Street, London W1G 8YS

NOTE: A member entitled to attend, speak and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy who need not be a member to attend and exercise all or any of his rights at the meeting.

## DINOSAUR HAD 'STEAK-KNIFE' TEETH

A study published in *Nature Communications* in February on hidden dental diversity has revealed the first incidence of cusps and ziphodonty (serrated teeth) in the oldest known fully terrestrial predator, the *Dimetrodon*.<sup>1</sup>

New fossil evidence has exposed variation in *Dimetrodon* teeth, with well-defined denticles, enamel ornamentation and densely distributed serrations, up to six or seven serrations per mm. Not all species of *Dimetrodon* display the ziphodont tooth structure, but serrated teeth would have allowed the predator to slice through its prey more easily, allowing for more efficient feeding and potentially changing the type of prey hunted.

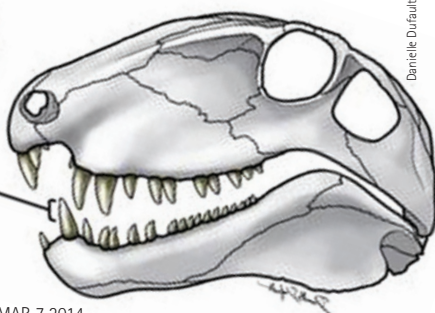
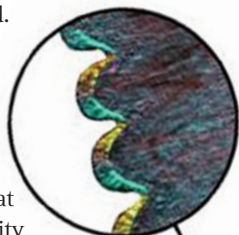
Authors Brink and Reisz from the Department of Biology at the University of Toronto, suggest a hypothesis 'of evolutionary change in the development of

tooth anatomy over time', while the cranial anatomy of *Dimetrodon* species typically remains unchanged over its 25 million year duration. Much is known about the configuration of dinosaur teeth from fossils, but these results add to the smaller corpus of information about the dental structure and feeding patterns of earlier animals.

There is greater variation in tooth morphology than previously thought of *Dimetrodon*, which lived over 250 million years ago. Such dental diversity has important implications for our understanding of terrestrial vertebrate evolution and feeding behaviours.

1. Brink K S, Reisz R R. Hidden dental diversity in the oldest terrestrial apex predator *Dimetrodon*. *Nat Commun* 2014; 5: 3269.

BY LAURA PACEY



Danielle Dufault

## BOOK REVIEW



### YOUR HEALTHY MOUTH (FIVE EBOOK SERIES)

M. Ashley

Smashwords

price \$2.99 per ebook; pp 249 (1), 148 (2), 89 (3), 132 (4), 184 (5)

ISBN 9781301056774 (1), 9781301459131 (2),

9781301320196 (3), 9781301146116 (4), 9781301309023 (5)

This ebook series written by Martin Ashley, consultant in restorative dentistry, sets out to provide 'Dental knowledge for all the family.' The author aims to provide the reader with 'simple ideas about how they can make their mouth healthier.'

The first ebook teaches the reader to recognise basic oral anatomy, to understand oral health and the influence of general health and diet on it. Dental caries and gum disease are introduced to the reader in an easy-to-understand format.

The second book highlights the importance of good oral hygiene and acts as a practical guide. The use of colour photographs guides the patients through basic oral hygiene instruction and use of interdental aids. Book three covers common dental problems including sensitivity and tooth wear.

'A dental lifetime' is covered in the fourth book: from teething and dental trauma to dry mouth and dentures. This book would be a useful resource for anyone looking after another person's teeth, including parents and those caring for the elderly.

The final book in the series explains common dental treatments including a chapter on the perils of cosmetic dentistry. Commonly asked questions, such as 'how to find a dentist' are also discussed.

The books in the series are designed to complement one another, but the careful categorising of subjects allows readers to pick out specific books. The electronic format and online publication means that amendments can be made so that information is kept up to date and relevant.

Although the target audience for these books is patients this series could act as a useful resource for dentists, dental care professionals and students alike. Professionals could refer patients to the series to answer commonly asked questions and help reinforce the message to patients that they are ultimately responsible for their own oral health. The series, however, understands and explains its limitations and advises readers to seek professional help when appropriate.

Written in an informal and relaxed style the reader is guided through the series by an entertaining narrative from the author. Clear bullet point lists are used throughout the series to summarise the key 'take home' messages and colour photographs are used to good effect to illustrate points.

The series brings together relevant points in an accessible resource for patients and professionals.

L. BROWN