

The BDJ News section accepts items that include general news, latest research and diary events that interest our readers. Press releases or articles may be edited, and should include a colour photograph if possible. Please direct your correspondence to the News Editor, Arveen Bajaj at the BDJ, 64 Wimpole Street WIG 8YS or by email to bdj@bda.org

ARF fees update

Over 90 per cent of registrants (31,000) have paid their Annual Retention Fee (ARF) and around 30,000 annual practising certificates have been issued, according to the GDC.

About 1,000 registrants have written to ask the Council to remove their names from the register.

The Electoral Reform Services' help line has received over 3,500 telephone calls, with staff at the GDC responding to an additional 2,500 calls.

Several hundred letters have also been received about the ARF – all of which have been responded to.

The GDC adds that an analysis of the letters and calls will be made so that they can determine registrants' main areas of concern. This, along with a full debriefing of this year's ARF exercise, will be reported to the Registration Committee in February.

The Council adds that it is clear from the postbag that the decision to raise the fee for the over-65s has caused considerable controversy and that the unavoidable late issue of practising certificates has also caused concern.

To this end, the Chief Executive of the Registration Department, and Communications will be reviewing the lessons to be learned from this year's ARF exercise, and will be making proposals for the future.



General Dental Council

Researchers win award



Three Manchester University researchers have been awarded The Wuehrmann Prize by the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology. The award recognises high standards of scientific endeavour and writing and is awarded annually to the authors of the best article published within the Oral Radiology section of the journal *Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Radiology and Endodontics*. Dr Vivian Rushton, Senior Lecturer in oral and maxillofacial radiology (centre), Professor Keith Horner, Professor of oral and maxillofacial imaging (left) and Professor Helen Worthington, Professor of evidenced based care (right) received the award for their paper which evaluated the benefits obtained from screening panoramic radiography of adult patients within general dental practice.

European Parliament approves directive

The European Parliament has accepted amendments to the draft directive on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications. This will mean that healthcare professionals from any EU country working abroad, may be required to register with the relevant regulatory body in whichever country they are working in.

The Alliance of UK Health Regulators on Europe (AURE) called on MEPs voting in the plenary on 11 February to endorse the vote of the Legal Affairs Committee and ensure that public protection safeguards were maintained. MEPs welcomed the decision as a move towards supporting the free movement of labour while maintaining standards in healthcare.

The membership of the Alliance consists of the General Medical Council, the General Dental Council, the General Optical Council, the General Osteopathic Council, the General Chiropractic Council, the Health Professions Council, the Nursing and Midwifery Council, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the General Social Care Council and the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland.



DIARY

April 2004

Avoiding failures and maximising success in restorative dentistry

Date: 02.04.04

Venue: Tunbridge Wells

Contact: Elisabeth Jarrett

Tel: +44 (0)1892 654 384

Email: elisabeth.jarrett@btinternet.com

Medicare India 2004

Date: 06-08.04.04

Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Contact: Rob Grant

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7723 8020

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7723 8060

Email: rob.grant@kinexlog.com

www.medicare-expo.com

1st European Conference on Preventive & Minimally Invasive Dentistry

Date: 16-17.04.04

Venue: Copenhagen

Contact: Conference office

Tel: +45 45 93 70 28

Fax: +45 45 93 70 29

Email: pc@quintessence.dk

May 2004

British Dental Conference and Exhibition

Date: 06-08.05.04

Contact: Delegate Management Services

Venue: Bournemouth International Centre (BIC)

Tel: 0870 166 6625 or + 44 (0) 1252

771 425 (from overseas)

Fax: 0870 522 8890 or + 44 (0) 1252

771 790 (from overseas)

www.bda-events.org

Queen's New Year honours



John Beal was awarded an MBE for services to dental public health in West Yorkshire. Dr Beal qualified at the Royal Dental Hospital, London in 1966. He attended Birmingham Dental School as Research Fellow (and later, lecturer) where his PhD research on the social aspects of dental disease also served as the baseline for monitoring the effectiveness of water fluoridation in Birmingham. He has the lead role in the Dental Policy Branch at the Department of Health for Inequalities and Health Promotion and is the current Treasurer of the UK Public Health Association and Vice-Chairman of the British Fluoridation Society.



Stella Kwan, a senior lecturer in Dental Public Health was awarded an OBE for services to dentistry. She is a member of the BDA Equality and Diversity Committee and the Department of Health Standing Dental Advisory Committee. She is also a Deputy Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research into Oral Health, Migration and Inequalities at Leeds Dental Institute, University of Leeds. Since migrating from Hong Kong to England in 1987, Stella has been an active member of the local community and a trustee for a number of local voluntary and charitable minority ethnic organisations, to whom she would like to dedicate the award.



Linda Shaw was awarded an OBE for services to paediatric dentistry. Dr Shaw who retired last August, was previously the Head of Paediatric Dentistry at the University of Birmingham Dental School, and a member of the Specialist Advisory Committee in Paediatric Dentistry at the Royal College of Surgeons. She was also the Chairman of the Consultants Group in Paediatric Dentistry. Dr Shaw sees the OBE as an award for paediatric dentistry, as this is the first time an honour has been given specifically in this area.

Dental hospital celebrates Golden Jubilee

The Charles Clifford Dental Hospital in Sheffield recently celebrated its Golden Jubilee following 50 years of providing dental services to the people of Sheffield. The Dental Hospital was founded by Colonel Sir Charles Clifford, commander of the Sheffield Territorial Artillery and the 126 Brigade Army field Artillery.

This story was originally printed in BDJ 2003, 196: 69 with an incorrect picture caption.



Artist Joe Scarborough (left) and Councillor D. Leek, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield (right) with the Jubilee painting.

Double recognition gained



Eaglesham Dental Surgery in Glasgow recently gained both Investor in People recognition and BDA Good Practice accreditation.

Distinguished service to CDA



Dr S. Prince Akpabio was given the title of Emeritus Founder President for recognition of his long and distinguished service to the Commonwealth Dental Association (CDA) at its recent 4th Triennial meeting in Kenya. During this meeting Dr L. K. Gandhi was installed as the President of the CDA. (Pictured left to right: Dr Brian Mouatt, former CDA President, Dr L. K. Gandhi, and Dr S. Prince Akpabio).

Women in Dentistry awards

Women in Dentistry have two annual awards for females in dentistry to which they are inviting entries. The Patricia Nicholls essay prize 2004 of £250 is for an original essay titled, 'How can I help change patients misconceptions about dentistry?' The essay prize is open to all female dental students and female dentists.

The Caroline Hodge's Bursary of £200 is available to a female dentist to enable her to further her career. For further details please contact Louise Bligh/Lynn Stevenson, on 0238 066 3414 or email dentists@marchwood.dentalpractice.org.uk.

