

Eoin Smart



On 29 September 2004 family, friends, colleagues and students past and present gathered in Newcastle to grieve an untimely loss, and to celebrate the life of a remarkable man. Not even standing room was sufficient to contain the throngs who wished to pay their respects to Eoin Smart, one of the longest serving and best regarded clinical teachers in the history of Newcastle Dental School.

Exiled lowland Scot Eoin left Daniel Stewart's College, Edinburgh to commence dental training at the Sutherland Dental School, King's College Durham in 1956. There he met fellow dental student Patricia Cameron to whom he would be devoted in marriage for the rest of his life. Together, they were blessed with three children who were the constant pride and joy of this intensely private, family-centred man.

Eoin qualified in 1961 and immediately progressed through the junior ranks at the Dental Hospital. He was elected to Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (Edinburgh) in 1967 and was quickly recognised as a prize catch for the full time academic staff in Newcastle.

During 37 years of faithful service, Eoin held numerous offices, including Presidency of the North of England Odontological Society, the Newcastle Dental Graduates Association, and the Newcastle Dental Students Society. He was a founder member of the British Society of Restorative Dentistry, and an invited member of untold committees and groups to which he brought valuable common sense and clarity of thought.

Malcolm Pendlebury



Malcolm Pendlebury died suddenly on Sunday 26 September 2004 at his home in Nottingham; he was 65. Dean of the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners (UK) 1997-2000, Malcolm was one of the profession's enthusiasts with a wide range of interests in clinical dentistry, teaching and research, and will be sadly missed.

Up to the time of his death, he was working in his general dental practice at The Parks in Nottingham, and was also undertaking specialist sessions in prosthodontics and oral surgery at Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham. He was involved in teaching in various fields within the universities of Nottingham, Sheffield and Leeds, was educational adviser to the FGDP(UK) and was, among other projects, engaged in the re-writing and updating of the well-known *Self assessment manual of standards (SAMS)* handbook.

Outside dentistry, Malcolm worked on behalf of the World Health Organization in verifying quality assurance in the examination systems of medical schools in the former Yugoslavia. Another interest was transprofessional activity and he had recently organised a conference for the UK Centre for the Advancement of InterProfessional Education on overseas recruitment and cultural change, which embraced medicine, dentistry, nursing, physiotherapy and a number of other healthcare professions. In dental affairs, he was the president-elect of the East Midlands branch of the BDA.

...enthusiast, innovator and technophile...

Eoin's practical approach was reflected throughout his research career, which focused principally on mercury hazards in dental practice. His MDS thesis in 1980 was a huge body of self-directed work, far in excess of many current PhD or DDS theses. His knowledge was encyclopaedic, his views balanced and valued by those who called on his expert insight and editorial help. He pursued his studies with interest and a desire to provide answers, not a self-seeking agenda.

Clinically, there are few who could challenge the thoughtful treatment planning and operative grace of a man equally comfortable with cast pinlays as resin-bonded bridges; with copper rings and impression compound as hydrophilic silicone. Clinical students need the inspiration and security of comfortable, experienced clinicians, and who was the safest, gentlest mentor of so many generations of Newcastle students? What a legacy to have equipped more than 2000 dental students with core skills and attitudes, to the benefit of perhaps 4 million patients under their care.

Eoin was an enthusiast, an innovator, and a technophile who embraced everything new from the overhead projector to digital video as he worked to benefit students and their educational experience.

It was a privilege to have shared life with Eoin, and an over-filled crematorium gathered in unity of purpose to honour, admire and respect his lifetime of service and devotion. Our love and prayers are with Pat and the family as they come to terms with their loss.

J. Whitworth

He was a pioneer of vocational training...

A number of Malcolm's activities throughout his career are worthy of particular mention. He was one of the pioneers of vocational training in the East Midlands, running a vocational training scheme and acting as regional adviser. He was a well-known member of the BDA's Representative Board and the General Dental Services Committee. Inevitably, this led to much involvement in the committee structure of the BDA, from which he only stood down recently. Finally, he was one of the founder members of the FGDP(UK), making considerable contributions to the development of its structure. He served as its third dean and ensured that the Faculty was soundly based and a permanent member of the family of dental institutions.

Most of all, Malcolm will be remembered for the many qualities he brought to the world of general dental practice. He sought to raise the status of general dental practitioners, provide them with standards they could aspire to and thereby to raise the quality of patient care. A career as busy and structured as Malcolm's required certain personal attributes. He brought energy and commitment to the work that he did. Above all, he will be remembered particularly for his enthusiasm and energy in developing the world of primary dental care.

Malcolm is survived by a son and a daughter, and his wife Andrea, to whom our sympathies are extended. A funeral service was held in Nottingham, and a further service of remembrance at St Clement Danes Church in London.

P. Lowndes