

## Retired dentist Denise Forshaw creates artwork during the pandemic



Fig. 1 Izzy Forshaw, Denise's youngest daughter

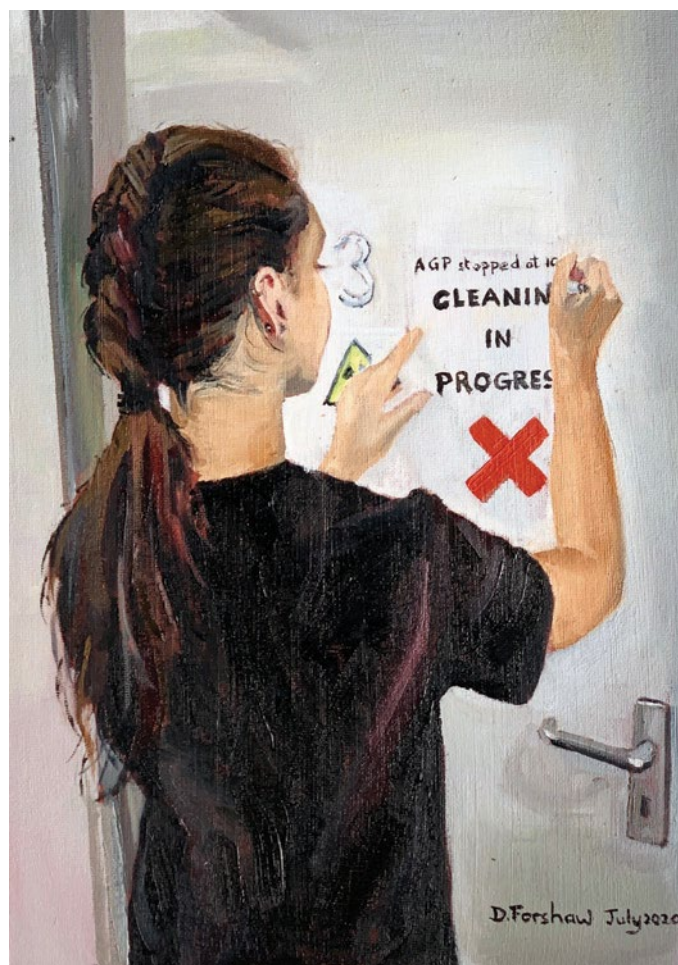


Fig. 3 Abi Schofield, one of the dental nurses at Sandy Lane

Recently retired dentist Denise Forshaw, who qualified in Liverpool in 1977, wrote to the *BDJ* earlier this year to share some artwork that she had created as a tribute to her daughters and her former colleagues still working in dentistry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Denise wrote: 'My sister and former dental partner, Rosin Dickinson, my two daughters Holly and Izzy Forshaw and a team of others continued to work at the surgery, Sandy Lane Dental Practice, Skelmersdale, which became an urgent dental care centre taking referrals during most of the early lockdown.'

The oil painting (Fig. 1) is of Denise's youngest daughter Izzy who is a Manchester dental graduate, fresh out of foundation training.

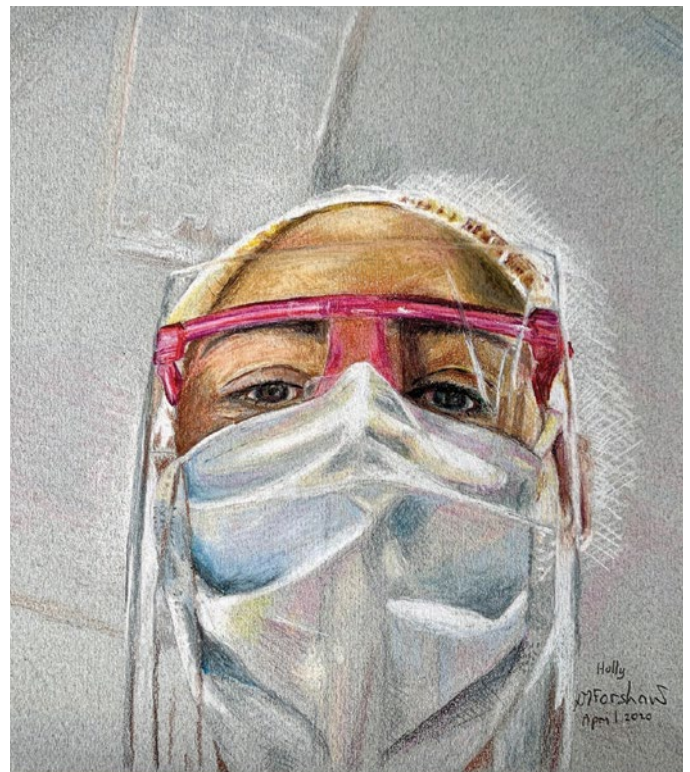


Fig. 2 Denise's daughter Holly Forshaw

The pencil sketch (Fig. 2) is of her eldest daughter Holly who did her BDS in Manchester and qualified in 2009.

Denise was one of six children. She was brought up on a farm and was the first of several dentists in the family including her youngest sister, her two daughters, her niece Madeleine Ball and her cousin's daughter. She says that she's really enjoyed her career and likes to think that she's been an inspiration to others to pursue a career in dentistry.

Denise continues to paint from her art studio at her home in the village of Croston in Lancashire. Before lockdown she met up weekly with an enthusiastic group of 'arty' friends to create and also has lessons with classically trained artist Chris McGloughlin at local craft studio Cedar Farm, where he holds oil painting classes.

Lots of changes have come about since the pandemic started but, according to Denise, everyone at the surgery has stepped up to



« the challenge and adapted. This oil painting of Abi Schofield (Fig. 3), one of the dental nurses at Sandy Lane, was done to reflect the new ways of working including surgery fallow time following aerosol generating procedures (now known as post AGP downtime).

Denise said that she felt it was time that the team at Sandy Lane Dental Practice and all UK dental personnel were thanked for their continued professionalism and care in these unprecedented times.

As Lancashire continues to be in the highest Tier 3 restrictions, Denise recently did an oil painting to display at the practice (Fig. 4). The bouquet of flowers was painted as a tribute to the team's unwavering commitment to the continued provision of dental care in the area.

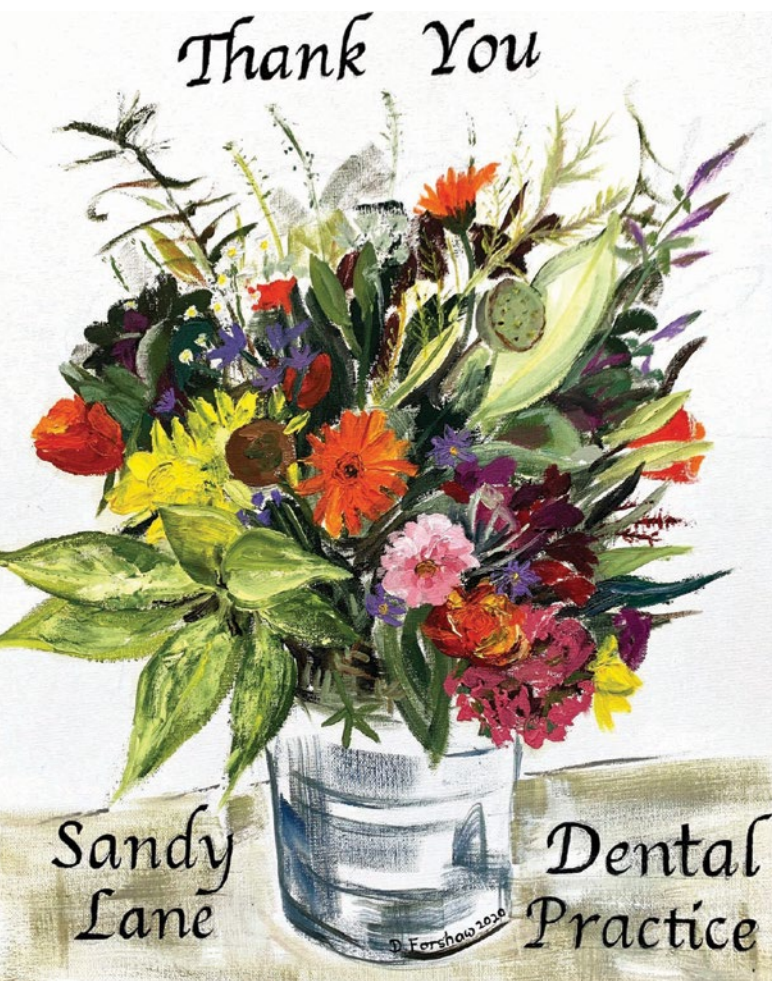


Fig. 4 An oil painting of a bouquet of flowers painted as a tribute to Sandy Lane

## Dental Showcase moves online for 2021

The BDIA Dental Showcase Advisory Board and MA Exhibitions Limited have taken the decision to reschedule BDIA Dental Showcase to 25–26 March 2022 at ExCeL, London. For 2021, a brand new virtual event will take place on 22–26 March 2021: BDIA Dental Showcase On Demand.

For more information and to register your interest in the virtual event, visit <https://ondemand.dentalshowcase.com/>.

## Research grants available for those with a great idea

Two grants of up to £10,000 are available to members of the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry (BSPD) looking for pump-priming funds for research projects focused on the oral health of children. The deadline for submission of an application for a joint FDS RCSEng BSPD grant is 29 January 2021.

In order to apply, you must be a member of BSPD and have developed a research project which relates to children's oral health in the broadest sense. Applicants do not have to be a member of the FDS RCSEng but would be expected to join for the duration of the grant.

In 2020, Laura Timms, an academic clinical fellow based at the University of Sheffield School of Dentistry, was successful in her application for pump-priming funds. She was awarded £5,460 to support background research into a video to be made by and for children, explaining the silver diamine fluoride technique.

Chris Vernazza, BSPD's academic lead, said: 'Having good quality evidence is key to the Society's mission of improving the oral health of children in the UK and so we are delighted to be working with RCS England's Faculty of Dental Surgery to support research. The grants offer an ideal opportunity to undertake a small project, hopefully leading on to further research and so we would encourage anyone with great ideas to apply.'

For more information visit <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/dental-faculties/fds/research/fds-pump-priming-grants/#fdsbspd>.

## BDA Benevolent Fund sees three-fold increase in requests for help

This year, the BDA Benevolent Fund has seen a three-fold increase in requests for help, a direct result of the challenges posed by COVID-19, and has been able to maintain the usual high level of assistance thanks to the dedication of the team and robust protocols.

With Christmas fast approaching, General Manager, Laura Hannon, recognises that the strain may increase for some.

Laura said: 'We are here to help. Between now and the end of the year, we will be doing all we can to keep a roof over people's heads, as well as fed, safe and warm.'

'We will also give people additional support so that they can feel a sense of normalcy, for example ensuring the children of beneficiaries do not miss out on a present, or that no-one spends Christmas Day alone because they cannot afford to travel to their family – if COVID-19 rules allow that.'

If you, or someone you know, are in need, please contact the BDA Benevolent Fund straight away in confidence. Simply call 020 7486 4994 or visit [www.bdabenevolentfund.org.uk](http://www.bdabenevolentfund.org.uk) for more information.

