

New *BDJ* cover series explores UN Sustainable Development Goals

For the 235th Volume of the *BDJ*, which starts with this issue, we consider the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their relevance to dentistry, dental patients and their oral health.

The 17 SDGs are a call for action to all countries in a global partnership to end poverty, improve health and education, reduce inequalities, tackle climate change, and work towards preserving our oceans and forests.

The Editor-in-Chief explores these themes further in his editorial in this issue.¹

For the first cover of the series, artist Kate Miller represents the SDG 'No poverty'. The illustration was inspired by a

product news article we published in 2022² that mentioned that one in five people in the UK live in poverty, limiting their access to basic hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste and soap – and a news article published this year that highlighted how teachers are buying pupils toothbrushes and toothpaste in the cost-of-living crisis.³

Each cover also includes the relevant SDG goal logo.

To read more about the UN's SDGs visit <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

References

1. Hancocks S. The bigger picture. *Br Dent J* 2023; **235**: 9.
2. News. Helping to tackle hygiene poverty. *Br Dent J* 2022; **233**: 899.



3. News. Teachers are buying pupils toothbrushes and toothpaste in cost-of-living crisis. *Br Dent J* 2023; **234**: 207.

Professor Nairn Wilson appointed Knight Bachelor

Professor Nairn Wilson CBE FCGDent, Honorary Founding President (now President Emeritus) of the College of General Dentistry, has been appointed Knight Bachelor in King Charles III's first Birthday Honours List.

Nairn is thought to be the first dental professional to be knighted since Sir Nicholas Sturridge KCVO in 2007, and is the first to be made a Knight Bachelor since Sir Ian Gainsford in 1995. His citation reads 'Honorary Founding President, College of General Dentistry. For services to dentistry'.

Professor Wilson – now Sir Nairn – is a Founder and Founding Fellow of the College, and its first Chair, serving from 2017–2020. He was then appointed Honorary Founding President, and following the full activation of the College with the transfer of the membership of the former Faculty of General Dental Practice in 2021, President Emeritus. He was founding Editor of the Faculty's (now College's) *Primary Dental Journal* from 2012–2017 and was also the College's first Life Fellow.

A Patron of the Dental Wellness Trust, he is a Past President of the British Dental Association and Emeritus Professor of Dentistry at King's College London, where he was Professor of Restorative Dentistry, Dean and Head of the College's Dental Institute,



and Deputy Vice Principal for Health. His many other positions have included Dean of Manchester University Dental Hospital and subsequently Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Manchester, Editor of the *Journal of Dentistry*, Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, President of the General Dental Council, Chair of the Council of Deans and Heads of Dental Schools (now the Dental Schools Council) and co-chair of the Forum of European Heads and Deans of Dental Schools.

He was made Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

(CBE) in 2004 for services to dentistry and healthcare regulation, and holds numerous fellowships. His awards for research excellence include the Hollenback Memorial Prize, a British Dental Association Tomes Medal and the International Association for Dental Research Ivar Mjor Award for practice-based research.

Sir Nairn will be formally 'dubbed' a Knight, and presented with his insignia, by HM The King or a senior member of the Royal Family at a ceremony of investiture at Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle or the Palace of Holyroodhouse later this year.

Sir Nairn's wife, Margaret – who is Honorary Curator of the British Dental Museum, Editor of the *Dental Historian* (the journal of the Lindsay Society for the History of Dentistry), and a retired Consultant in Restorative Dentistry whose posts included Clinical Director of Manchester Dental Hospital and Director of The National Advice Centre for Postgraduate Dental Education – is now Lady Wilson.

Sir Nairn said: 'Being knighted is the high point of my 50 years in dentistry. I am hugely honoured but all the more challenged to try to put back into dentistry as much as it has given me. Very special thanks to everyone who has helped and supported me during my career'. ✦