

Dundee students pull it out of the bag for mouth cancer awareness

Dundee, the ‘City of Discovery’, was a hive of activity for Mouth Cancer Awareness in November. With support from the charity Let’s Talk About Mouth Cancer (LTAMC), the Dundee Dental Student Society held information stalls on the main University of Dundee campus and a fundraising Acoustic Night.

The stall saw hundreds of people interact with the students to learn about their own risk of oral cancer, how they can reduce this and the signs and symptoms to look out for. The self-examination leaflets and online video were particularly well received as were the UV protection lip balms and toothpaste samples given out.

To mark the end of the week the students brought out guitars and sung their hearts out to raise £2,360 for LTAMC – the raffle prizes pulling in extra with strong ticket sales.

Sophie Craig, Charities and Sponsorship Representative for the Dundee Dental Student Society said, ‘We wanted to raise awareness of mouth cancer within our community and about the risk factors and typical features of this disease. We know that if we can help patients achieve an early diagnosis, this gives them the best chance of successful



treatment. Joining with Let’s Talk About Mouth Cancer we could help promote how essential it is that patients “self-check” their mouth at home to catch it quick.’

On receiving the cheque, Ewan MacKessack-Leitch, Trustee & Treasurer said, ‘Every year the dental students at Dundee pull it out of the bag. Not only do they deliver a stall and campaign that captures and engages the population here in Dundee, they then raise money so we can continue our

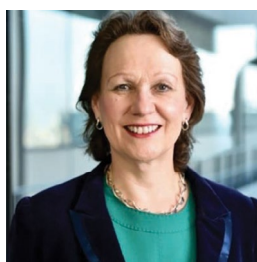
mission. Let’s Talk About Mouth Cancer is about action: empowering patients and dentists to talk about the disease, minimise risk, detect it early and reduce the diagnostic delay. The enthusiasm the students show really helps in this fight and the fundraising will enable more of our resources and activities getting out to the population. I want to thank the Dundee Dental Student Society for their continued support.’

Jenny Gallagher elected IADR Vice-President

Members of the International Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (IADR) have elected Professor Jennifer E. Gallagher MBE to serve as Vice-President.

Her term will commence at the conclusion of the 102nd General Session of the IADR, which will be held in conjunction with the 53rd Annual Meeting of the AADOCR and the 48th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Dental Research, from 13–16 March 2024 in New Orleans, USA.

Professor Gallagher holds the distinguished Newland Pedley Chair in Oral Health Services Research in the Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial



Sciences at King’s College London, where she is now working as an Ambassador alongside the Vice President for International, Engagement & Service and the Vice-Chancellor of King’s. She was awarded an MBE in the late Queen’s New Year’s Honours

List of 2015 for services to oral health.

Professor Gallagher brings to the role extensive experience in international engagement and collaborative partnerships, professional leadership, health strategy and policy. Her expertise combines dentistry and public health working across the university and health sectors. She is very committed to equitable partnerships and mentoring

the next generation of researchers. This is on top of a strong and sustained track record in Health Services Research seeking to impact on population health and health services. As an IADR member for over two decades, she has been actively involved nationally, regionally, and globally in contributing to science and debate through IADR General Sessions and the World Congress of Preventive Dentistry. This includes being immediate past President of GOHIRN (Global Oral Health Inequalities Research Network) of IADR which seeks to advance knowledge, research, and inform action on oral health inequalities globally.

Professor Gallagher also sits on the *BDJ* Editorial Board.