

CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

Peter and Fiona Sands, of Saint Helens Dental Practice, Abingdon, will be two of around 300 cyclists cycling over 300 miles from London to Paris in aid of The Royal British Legion in September. The Sands hope to raise over £5,000 to help the Legion, which supports serving and ex-Service men and women and their dependants.

CosTech Elite Dental Laboratory is contributing to the charity Operation Smile throughout 2011. Operation Smile restores the faces of thousands of children with facial deformities every year that may not have otherwise had the chance of a normal life. For every restoration created by CosTech Elite, 15p will be donated to Operation Smile.

Dental implant supplier Implantium has donated muco-periosteal elevators to the *Mission Ecuador* project, a week-long expedition organised by the Dental Community Fellowship based in South Carolina, which was assisted by Dr Nigel Mallon of Taptonville House Dental Practice, Sheffield, in collaboration with the Sheffield School of Clinical Dentistry. The Mission Ecuador project provided dental treatment to more than 3,000 patients in Quito, Ecuador's capital, and provided oral health education in local schools.

Dr Mavis Phipps, who raised £400,000 through organising Christmas Raffles over 13 years for the British Dental Association's (BDA's) Benevolent Fund, has retired after being an important part of the Fund for 23 years. Dr Phipps was recently awarded the BDA's highest honour, the Fellowship of the Association, for her outstanding services to the BDA and the profession.

The dental team from The Brace Orthodontic Practice in London are taking part in the 6th annual Mouth Cancer 10 km Awareness Walk for the first time this year. Dr Murtuza Hasnaini and his team are walking the 10 km in Hyde Park, London, on 17 September 2011 to help raise funds and awareness for the Mouth Cancer Foundation. www.mouthcancerwalk.org

Five members of the Performance Finance team, who provide the healthcare sector with independent financial products, are taking part in a charity skydive – jumping out of an aeroplane at 13,500 feet – to raise money for Bridge2Aid.

NEW SCHEME OFFERS FINANCE TO GO GREEN

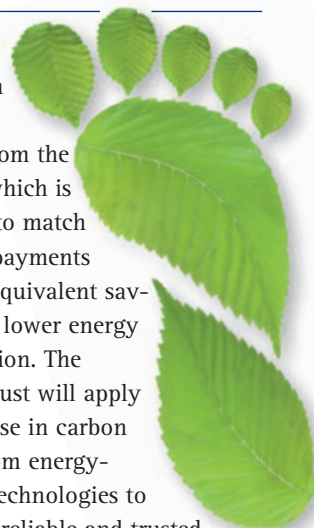
The Carbon Trust and Siemens have launched a new scheme to provide UK professional services businesses, including dentists, with green equipment finance. This major new scheme will boost green growth and unlock business investment in the low carbon economy.

Analysis from the Carbon Trust and Siemens has shown that the estimated market for energy-efficient equipment finance over the next three years in the Professional Services sector is £270 million.

Enabling investment in such technologies as low energy lighting, energy-efficient motors, low carbon air conditioning or biomass heating, the new dedicated green finance scheme will enable professional services businesses to invest in equipment which not only saves energy costs, but may also help improve productivity.

Any business is able to apply for

new green growth finance from the scheme, which is designed to match monthly payments with the equivalent savings from lower energy consumption. The Carbon Trust will apply its expertise in carbon saving from energy-efficient technologies to provide a reliable and trusted assessment of the carbon, energy and cost savings of any application for finance. Siemens Financial Services Ltd in the UK (SFS UK) provides the financial backing and manages the provision of funding. Any business wishing to apply to the scheme for energy-efficient equipment finance, or any equipment supplier wishing to offer the scheme to its customers, can visit: <http://www.energyefficiency-financing.co.uk>.



WIGAN DENTIST COMPLETES IRON MAN CHALLENGE

Barry Rimmer from Ashton Dental Practice in Wigan completed a grueling Ironman endurance event in July.

The event involved a 2.4 mile swim followed by a 112 mile bike ride then a 26.2 mile marathon. To challenge himself further, Mr Rimmer wore only thin 'Five Fingers' trainers on his feet. He raised close to £5,000 to go towards funding for schools and vital equipment for a village in Zambia.

'I completed [the challenge] in 12 hours 42 minutes,' said Mr Rimmer, who could barely swim eight months ago. Ashton Dental Practice, where he has worked for 23 years, regularly holds fundraising events to raise money for Zambia.



SPEAK UP ON CPD

The General Dental Council (GDC) is encouraging dental professionals to make their voices heard online as part of their review of continuing professional development (CPD).

A questionnaire can be found on the GDC's website at www.gdc-uk.org.

It asks dental professionals why they undertake CPD, what factors influence their choice of CPD activity, what CPD format they think is most effective, and how they reflect on what they have learnt.

A key aim of the review is to ensure that the GDC's CPD requirements are woven into a proportionate scheme of revalidation in due course.

