

The BDJ News section accepts items that include general news, latest research and diary events that interest our readers. Press releases or articles may be edited, and should include a colour photograph if possible.

Please direct your correspondence to the News Editor, Kate Maynard at the BDJ, The Macmillan Building, 4 Crinan Street, London, N1 9XW or by email to k.maynard@nature.com

A CHOCOLATE BOX OF SPEAKERS FOR LONDON 2013

General dental practitioner and Director of Dawson Academy UK, Dr Ian Buckle is due to present in the main auditorium at the 2013 British Dental Conference and Exhibition at ExCel London next April. Dr Buckle will discuss occlusal principles for daily practice.

Mr Mark Hunter, clinical teacher in restorative dentistry at the University of Manchester, will lead the 'expert endo' session, also in the main auditorium.

Other names to look out for on the 2013 programme include the President-Elect of the British Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry Dr Julian Caplan; prosthodontics specialists Dr Andrew Dawood and Dr Susan Tanner;

Consultant in Restorative Dentistry at the Eastman Dental Hospital, Mr Nicholas Lewis; Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Imaging at the University of Manchester, Professor Keith Horner; and Ian Needleman, Professor and Honorary Consultant in Periodontology at the UCL Eastman Dental Institute.

BDA members are entitled to a free one-day pass for both the conference and exhibition or they can choose to attend for two or three days at a discounted rate. Further information can be found at www.bda.org/conference.



ARF FROZEN; PAYMENT NOW DUE

The General Dental Council (GDC) has agreed that there will be no increase in the Annual Retention Fee (ARF) for the next year for either dentists or dental care professionals (DCPs).

The ARF will remain at £576 for dentists, due by 31 December 2012, and £120 for DCPs, due by 31 July 2013.

Dentists must pay their ARF before the clock strikes midnight on 31 December 2012. For those registrants paying by direct debit, the fee will be collected on 6 December 2012.

CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

Zena Brenchley, a North Devon orthodontist, cycled from Land's End to John O'Groats and back again in just 15 days in support of the Wooden Spoon Charity for disadvantaged children. Dr Brenchley averaged nearly 120 miles a day to complete the round trip of almost 1,800 miles and raised £3,800.

Henry Schein UK donated 50 oral health care travel packs to International Health Partners (IHP) in September for distribution to health care professionals in developing countries around the world. One of the supported outreach programmes was a two-week trip of 21 students from Cardiff Dental School to Ghana organised by Global Brigades.

Hundreds of people took part in the 7th annual Mouth Cancer Foundation 10 km Awareness Walk in Hyde Park in September. Dental Focus Web Design, who took part in the walk, are in the process of raising £1,000 to help draw attention to head and neck cancers.

Dentaid has developed a complete portable dental surgery

called the **DentaidBox**: a portable dental chair with light, suction unit, instrument kit and pressure cooker for sterilisation that all fit inside a wheeled bin. The unit costs £1,500 and makes possible basic oral care in low resource settings. www.dentaid.org.

Three members of the dental team at Port Erin Dental Surgery in the Isle of Man took part in a Dentaid trip to Uganda. Practice manager Linda Dobinson, dental nurse Maria Shilling and dentist Erik Ahlborn spent two weeks extracting teeth for patients who otherwise would receive no help at all.

Eastleigh dentist Philip Sommereux has raised £528 for Dentaid. He completed the 10 mile BUPA Great South Run in one hour 20 minutes and 24 seconds.