

# Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted by email to Laura Pacey at [l.pacey@nature.com](mailto:l.pacey@nature.com).

All submitted obituaries should be 350 words maximum in length (apart from obituaries for past presidents of the BDA where the length should be 700-800 words).

Content of the obituary is down to the individual author, and the approval of the family should be given for the obituary prior to submission to the *BDJ*.

## JOHN EDGAR LEE



John Lee qualified at Manchester University, then served in the RAF from 1942-1947. He developed his practice in Colwyn Bay, North Wales for 25 years, always

at the forefront of dental technology and notably being the first dentist in North Wales to use the new high-speed drill. In 1956 he became a founder member of *Y Geg* (North Wales post-graduate society).

John became Clinical Assistant in oral surgery and orthodontics progressing to Chief Administrative and Dental Officer for North Wales. One of his proudest achievements was designing and raising the funds for a mobile oral unit used to provide treatment for the disabled. He founded the North Wales section of the BDA in 1960 and was its president from 1968/1969. In 1980 he became a founder member of Somanda (Society of Dental Alumnus Manchester). John was awarded Life Membership of the BDA in 1986.

In the early days of computer technology John developed software to manage and analyse dental health data, maintaining this interest until his failing eyesight deprived him of this pleasure.

In addition to his outstanding professional career, John found time to contribute to his local community where he was a popular and well-known figure. He was Vice President of Rotary, Vice Chairman and Life Member of the Civic Society and CPRW and member of the Round Table and 41 Club and Estate Manager of the Eventide Homes where the beautiful

gardens are his lasting legacy.

He founded and was chairman of the North Wales Car Club, as well as a keen photographer, beer and wine maker.

He and his wife Audrey were very happily married for 64 years and immensely proud of their two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He began losing his sight aged 74, eventually becoming blind. Losing his hearing was another cruel blow but his zest for life meant that he continued a fulfilling life. Despite his professional and personal achievements, he remained modest, with great integrity. Always more interested in others, he remained stoical and uncomplaining to the end of his life, aged 91.

His family and friends remember this exceptional man with huge love and affection.

Ros Thomas

## GARY ROYSTON POLLOCK



Gary Royston Pollock (1959-2012) died on the 24 September 2012 after being diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. Despite the best of care, his death came surprisingly quickly for all concerned.

He was a product of Latymer school in North London. He studied at the Royal London Dental Hospital and graduated BDS in 1981, which was quickly followed by LDSRCS the following year. After house jobs at the London he entered general practice in Berkhamstead, and then returned to the London as a registrar in conservative dentistry. At this time Gary realised that he wanted to become a

specialist and work in hospital practice.

He undertook a masters course in conservative dentistry at the Eastman Dental Hospital (1986-88), whilst continuing registrar training in prosthetics at the Royal London Hospital. Gary gained his membership in restorative dentistry from the RCS Edinburgh, awarded his Fellowship in 1999 and was appointed consultant and honorary senior lecturer at the Royal London Hospital in 2003. Gary also had attachments to Parkside Community Trust, The Central Middlesex Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital. During his hospital career he worked in private practice and with Unilever. Most recently he ran a successful practice in Buckhurst Hill.

Gary was at the peak of his profession. He was widely respected by his peers and his undergraduate and post-graduate students. He had good judgement and a 'good pair of hands'. He was popular, sensible and caring. He was approachable and it was easy to discuss professional and personal matters with him. He had a good sense of humour. This year he was President of the British Society for Restorative Dentistry. Nobody will forget the dignity and bravery that he showed when presiding over the May meeting in Cambridge this year whilst confined to a wheelchair or the use of sticks.

Whilst enthusiastic about his work, above all Gary loved his family and his dogs. He was a devoted husband to Jo, whom he married in 1990, and a loving father to Alex, Chloe and Lara. He was a proficient skier, an enthusiastic cyclist and always entertaining company. He will be greatly missed by his family, his many friends and colleagues.

Ken W. Hemmings