

DIARY

The therapeutic gradient, a medical concept for actual dentistry?

by Dr Jean Pierre Attal

Date: 29 January 2013

Venue: BDA, London

Email: l.greenwall@btconnect.com

www.ao.org

PrimeSpeak: A New Way of Communicating with Patients

Date: 18-19 January 2013

Venue: St Johns Hotel, Birmingham

www.primespeak.com/uk/

seminars/register

BDA Seminar – Preparing for retirement

Date: 1 February 2013

Venue: Cedar Court Hotel,

Huddersfield

Telephone: 020 7563 4590

Email: events@bda.org

www.bda.org/seminars

'Wearing away'

by Prof David Bartlett

Date: 12 February 2013

Venue: BDA, London

Email: l.greenwall@btconnect.com

www.ao.org

On the Road to Better Aesthetics

Date (Venue): 9 February 2013

(Coventry Transport Museum); 15

February 2013 (The Sage, Gateshead);

16 February 2013 (London Zoo)

Telephone: 0845 873 6299

Email: sales@conferenceshop.com

Alpha Omega dental fraternity Jerusalem Conference

Date: 7-11 March 2013

Email: l.greenwall@btconnect.com

Masterclass in Special Care Dentistry: 'Five Years On'

Date: 14 March 2013

Venue: Royal College of Surgeons

England, London

Telephone: 020 7869 6815

Email: fds@rcseng.ac.uk

British Dental Conference & Exhibition 2013

Date: 25-27 April 2013

Venue: ExCel London

www.bda.org/conference

ADI Team Congress

Date: 1-3 May 2013

Venue: Manchester Central

Convention Complex

www.adi.org.uk/congress2013

MELANIE DEMYSTIFIES DENTAL THERAPY FOR PATIENTS

A dental therapist from Leeds, Melanie Joyce, has created an initiative called DentalTherapistsRock! aimed at explaining to the public what a dental therapist is and what they can do.

In November Ms Joyce launched a website, dentaltherapistsrock.co.uk, which has already had over 600 hits as a result of her efforts creating a following via social media and attendance at the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy's (BSDHT's) annual conference in Liverpool.

'I wanted to set up this initiative as dental therapists are still not widely known or understood by the public,' said Ms Joyce. 'When you search on the Internet for information on what a dental therapist is, most of the available information includes quite a lot of jargon and I feel is more for people who are considering dental therapy as a career.' She hopes that dental professionals will direct patients to the website and that other dental therapists will spread the word about DentalTherapistsRock! to show their support.

Ms Joyce qualified as a dental therapist in 2010 after six years as a dental nurse and currently works in the community dental service in Bradford and



in a mixed general practice in Leeds. She is also the North East Representative for the British Association of Dental Therapists (BADT), to whom she went for feedback prior to launching the website.

To sign up to DentalTherapistsRock! and access free downloads and resources, visit www.dentaltherapistsrock.co.uk.

CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

Mercy Ships, the international charity that provides free medical care and humanitarian aid to some of the world's poorest, celebrated **World Smile Day** by honouring the work of the volunteer dentists who treat thousands of patients every year.

World Smile Day is dedicated to acts of kindness with the aim of helping one person smile – and the volunteer dentists based on the world's largest charity hospital ship, the **Africa Mercy**, are doing that for thousands of the poorest people in West Africa.

The **BDTA** has honoured their promise to donate to three dental charities if 20,000 people registered for October's Dental Showcase. The **BDTA** donated £5,000 to be shared between **Bridge2Aid**, the **British Dental Health Foundation** and **Dentaid**.

Lesley Naismith, Support Manager at **Software for Excellence**, put aside her fear of heights when she parachuted to raise funds for a trip that will provide dental care for orphaned children in Burma.

HONOURS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

Best employer

Dental 22, an NHS dental practice in Retford, has been named one of the East Midlands' best employers in the regional final of the National Apprenticeship Awards and National Training Awards 2012. Dental 22 was recognised in the 'Small Employer of the Year' business category and was awarded 'highly commended'.

Prosthodontics Association

Dr Fazal Ghani, Head of the Department of Prosthodontics at the Khyber College of Dentistry, Peshawar, has been elected President of the Pakistan Prosthodontics Association for the term 2013-2014. Dr Ghani is also a Fellow of the Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons Glasgow.

Postgraduate Director

Professor Angus Walls has accepted the post of Director and Chair of the University of Edinburgh's Postgraduate Dental Institute and will take up the appointment in January 2013.

Leadership Scholarship

Neel Panchal and Katie Ernst, flexible learning postgraduate students at King's College London Dental Institute, have been announced as the recipients of the Henry Schein Leadership Scholarship for 2012. In addition, the Henry Schein Hardship Fund has been made to two students, one based in India, the other in Sudan. All the winning students will receive approximately half their tuition fees.