

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.

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## MAJOR CHANGE TO MJDF

As of 20 November 2011 MJDF candidates are no longer required to submit a Portfolio of Evidence. Upon successful completion of the Part 1 and Part 2 examinations, candidates are now eligible for joint membership of the Diploma of Membership of the Joint Dental Faculties at The Royal College of Surgeons of England (the MJDF).

The Faculties are committed to ensuring that the MJDF assessments remain relevant to modern dentistry. A recent review of the existing Portfolio of Evidence and the Foundation Training Portfolio concluded that there was a significant degree of commonality. In parallel with this, skills originally only examined through the portfolio are increasingly being assessed in a valid and reliable manner within the other components of the MJDF examination. Furthermore, all clinical providers are also now required to comply with the Care Quality Commission so ensuring a safe environment and quality of patient care.

In view of all of these factors, the Faculties have announced that they are content that the aims of the Portfolio of Evidence will continue to be met without it being a requirement for the award of the MJDF.

The MJDF examination continues to mark the successful completion of Foundation Training and clinical experience at the two year period, as well as being relevant to practitioners at other stages in their careers.

'The demands on candidates have changed, but the academic rigour and integrity of the MJDF have been maintained,' said Kathryn Harley, Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery.

Those who have already completed the portfolio, or intend to complete it in accordance with the requirements set out in the previous regulations, will be issued with an additional certificate recognising this achievement. Portfolios for this certification will need to be submitted by 31 August 2012.

## TONY TO CARRY TORCH

Tony Chivers MBE, champion sponsored rower who has appeared in the *BDJ* news recently, has secured his moment in history after being chosen as an Olympic Torchbearer for the 2012 Games.

The 91-year-old Vice President of the BDA Benevolent Fund

has been successful in his bid to become Torchbearer 62 years after winning a bronze medal in the Empire Games.

Competition for the honour of Torchbearer was incredibly tough, with only 8,000 places available and tens of thousands of exceptional nominations.

## GLASWEGIANS GATHER FOR WHITENING UPDATE

Three hundred dental professionals gathered in Glasgow in December to hear presentations on tooth whitening from two of the world's leading experts.

Delegates at the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners' Study Day heard that UK dental patients are set to benefit from a change in the law which will make tooth whitening safer and more effective. The new ruling by the EU allows European dentists to perform bleaching legally for the first time. The UK and Scottish governments have until September 2012 to enact the law.

Van Haywood and Linda Greenwall were the two speakers. The former is Professor in the Department of Oral Rehabilitation, School of Dentistry, Medical College of Georgia. In 1989, he co-authored the first publication in the world on nightguard vital bleaching and in 1997 co-authored the first article on extended treatment of tetracycline-stained teeth using this technique. Dr Greenwall is a lecturer and authority on tooth whitening and aesthetic dentistry. In 2008 she launched the British Dental Bleaching Society and in 2010 was voted the most influential female dentist in the UK.

'It was an excellent and informative day,' said Jayne Clifford, partner at accountants Martin Aitken & Co, a gold sponsor of the event.

