DIARY

Association for Dental Education in Europe meeting

Date: 28-31 August 2013
Venue: Wolfson Centre, University of Birmingham
www.birmingham.ac.uk/adee2013

British Lingual Orthodontic Society lingual training day for postgrads

Date: 4 September 2013
Venue: BLOS HQ, London
Telephone: 020 7353 8680
www.blos.co.uk

BDA Scottish Scientific Conference and Exhibition

Date: 6 September 2013
Venue: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Glasgow
Telephone: 020 7563 4590
www.bda.org/scottishscientific

BDA Seminar: Restoration of missing teeth

Date: 12 September 2013; Venue: The Grand by Thistle, Bristol
Date: 20 September 2013; Venue: BDA HQ, London
Email: events@bda.org
Telephone: 020 7563 4590
www.bda.org/seminars

BDA Seminar: Occlusion in restorative dentistry

Date: 20 September 2013; Venue: Mercure Leicester City Hotel, Leicester
Date: 18 October 2013; Venue: BDA HQ, London
Email: events@bda.org
Telephone: 020 7563 4590
www.bda.org/seminars

Infection Prevention in Dentistry: One Day Conference

Date: 1 October 2013
Venue: ExCeL London
www.eventsforce.net/dentalconf2013

BIONJ Masterclass

Date: 23 October 2013
Venue: Faculty of Dental Surgery, The Royal College of Surgeons of England
www.rcseng.ac.uk/fds

BACD 10th Annual Conference

Date: 6-8 November 2013
Venue: The Hilton London Metropole Hotel
Email: suzy@bacd.com
Telephone: 020 7612 4166
www.bacd.com

POLISHING LATHE STILL GOING STRONG 70 YEARS ON

Colin Rayne, son of the late Norman Rayne, dental manufacturer, has recently purchased a Rayway polish-ing lathe that is estimated to be around 70-years-old.

Norman Rayne (1900-1959) started making and repairing dental equipment from a small mews garage in Kendal Place, London, around 1930. The operation expanded into a large factory premises at Highgate Road, becoming Norman Rayne Ltd, manufacturers of Electro Dental Equipment. Colin worked as an apprentice engineer with the company from 1959, and the 'Rayway Alternating Lathe', a precision vintage grinder polisher for fine work, became their most popular product.

The example shown here dates from the 1940s and belonged to David Caldow Simpson, a dentist based in Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, who did many of his own 'mechanics' in the days before it was outsourced to dedicated labs. His son John had retained the machine for many years but last month decided to let it go.

He re-connected the control box, which also allows the selection of three speeds, and reports that the machine still runs as smoothly and quietly as ever. It also comes with a box of over 20 original grinding wheels, brushes and polishers.

John contacted Colin Rayne and asked whether he would be interested to see the lathe.

Colin decided to buy the lathe and offer it to the British Dental Association Museum, who are delighted to accept it. Both sons are pleased that their fathers will be remembered via the 'Rayway Alternating Lathe', which as far as they know is the only one still in existence.

Colin Rayne is interested to find out whether any *BDJ* readers have any other examples of Rayway products, and can be emailed at thehouseoffrayne@btinternet.com.

Photo by John Simpson

OLDEST MUMMY HAD TOOTHACHE

For the first time researchers have presented evidence of gum disease, tooth decay and dental trauma in the world's oldest 'wet mummy', 'Ötzi' the Iceman.¹

While extensive analysis of Ötzi has been performed over the past two decades, his dentition has never been closely investigated until now.

Researchers from the Centre for Evolutionary Medicine at the University of Zurich re-evaluated computed tomography (CT) scans from 2005 and discovered various oral pathologies in the form of carious lesions, severe dental abrasions and advanced periodontitis. The high presence of caries can be attributed to the dietary shift in the Neolithic period, with a focus on agriculture and a carbohydrate-rich diet rather than foraging. One carious lesion can even be seen to penetrate the dental pulp, most likely leading to pulp necrosis. Aggressive periodontitis can be observed, with the cervical regions of the front teeth exposed and a general horizontal loss of the alveolar bone leading to open furcations of at least two molars.

A fracture of the palatal cusp of the left first upper molar was possibly the result of mechanical trauma, and probably meant the tooth was functional but loose. Coupled with a recurrent periodontal abscess it can be speculated that had Ötzi lived longer, he would have been at great risk of tooth loss.

Seiler *et al.* conclude that 'the Neolithic Iceman probably had a functional, yet sometimes painful, dentition' and these latest findings offer an important look into not only the evolution of oral pathologies but the relationship between human lifestyle and dental disorders.

1. Seiler R, Spielman A I, Zink A, Rühli F. Oral pathologies of the Neolithic Iceman, c.3,300 BC. *Eur J Oral Sci* 2013; 1-5.

By Laura Pacey