

CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

Bridge2Aid has launched a new campaign around the theme 'WHAT IF?', looking into the effects of untreated dental pain, as part of their 10th anniversary celebrations at the Tanzanian High Commission in London.

Henry Schein, Inc announced in October that it was donating more than \$1 million in personal protective equipment (PPE) to help prevent the spread of Ebola in West Africa.

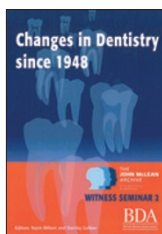
Patient Plan Direct raised more than £550 to help support mouth cancer

awareness, by donating 50p to Mouth Cancer Action for every new patient that signed up to a dental plan between April and June.

Integrated Dental Holdings has supported the work of **Bridge2Aid** for the second year running. IDH dentists Sanaa Kadar and Kostadin Todorov volunteered in Tanzania in October as part of Bridge2Aid's Dental Volunteer Programme.

The annual **BDA Central Counties** presidential meeting and dinner raised around £5,500 for the BDA Benevolent Fund in November.

BOOK REVIEW



THE CHANGES IN DENTISTRY SINCE 1948

N. Wilson, S. Gelbier
BDA

price £6.95; pp 114

ISBN 9781291769050

This book is part of a series of seminars that started in 2011, which have been transcribed into book form. The seminars were made possible by an honorable bequest from the late Dr John McLean, a highly respected dentist and scientist. He hoped to provide an inventive development that would benefit dentistry for future generations. This has certainly been achieved.

This seminar focuses on key issues and milestones that have evolved since the formation of the National Health Service in 1948. The book begins with a brief introduction to the seminar series, and the participants involved, each one a valued member of the dental profession.

Nairn Wilson, Dean of King's College London Dental Institute, chairs the seminar excellently. His aptitude for public speaking and knowledge of the profession make reading the transcription feel as if one was sitting within the seminar. He begins by outlining the purpose of the seminar and then opens the discussion up to its first contributor, who provides the reader with an insightful narrative of how and why the NHS was founded.

The discussion then goes on to cleverly map out the developments in the profession since 1948. Speakers with invaluable experience in their field put various topics forward for discussion. Many subjects stimulate an invigorating conversation between participants, with several of them sharing personal anecdotes and memories of their experiences.

Despite the book having no chapters or specific structure, the transcript keeps the reader enlightened with these personal stories, almost as if reading a diary from the early days of the NHS. Some of the interesting narrations shared include the controversy surrounding general anaesthetics in dental practice, what it was like to be a female dentist and the rise in specialisation and privatisation.

The vast changes in the NHS over the past 75 years are carefully highlighted in this seminar and I feel this book could easily be read in one sitting, as the reader is captivated by the personal recollections shared. Many of the situations dentists found themselves in are difficult to imagine for a newly qualified dentist like myself.

This book would be valuable to every member of the dental profession. It is truly one-of-a-kind, providing a unique archive of anecdotes and memoirs that would have been lost without Dr McLean's donation.

L. DUFFY

NEWS IN BRIEF

Record BAOS attendance

A record number of surgeons and practitioners came together this year for the British Association of Oral Surgeons (BAOS) Annual Scientific Conference. Edinburgh's Royal College of Surgeons was filled to capacity as 300 delegates travelled from as far afield as Australia to attend the event in September. Launched in 2001, the BAOS exists as an association for clinicians with a special interest in oral surgery, from dental trainees and high street practitioners to those working in hospital and academic posts. This year saw an outstanding number of high quality entries in the poster, open paper and audit competitions. The 2015 event will be held in Manchester in September.

NFORC launch

The National Facial Oral and Oculoplastic Research Centre (NFORC) was officially launched on 25 November 2014. The Centre, dedicated to researching how best to prevent and treat facial and mouth diseases, injuries and disfiguring conditions, is a collaboration between Saving Faces (The Facial Surgery Research Foundation), the British Orthodontic Society (BOS), the British Oculoplastic Surgery Society (BOPSS) and the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (BAOMS). It has been designated by the Royal College of Surgeons of England as its Head and Neck Clinical Trials Unit. The Centre was launched with a special event at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on London's South Bank, featuring a series of dramatic and inspiring talks by patients and internationally renowned surgeons.

Blanket immunisation

The BDA, as a member of the HPV Alliance, is urging the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation to consider blanket immunisation against human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is emerging as the leading cause of oropharyngeal cancer, especially among young people, and rates are rising steeply overall. It is linked to 5% of all cancers worldwide, including some that affect only men, yet at the moment only girls aged 12 and 13 are currently offered a vaccine, to reduce their risk of cervical cancer.

Antibiotic guardians

The BDA has called on its members to become Antibiotic Guardians by taking the pledge to cut the use of antibiotics in the battle to combat antimicrobial resistance. Dentists are responsible for about 10% of all antibiotic prescriptions in the UK. <http://antibioticguardian.com/>

World Oral Health Day

World Oral Health Day 2015 will be celebrated on 20 March 2015 with a wide range of awareness-raising activities. Download materials and find further information at www.worldoralhealthday.org.