

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ The BDA has warned that places must be found for the 107 UK final-year students and graduates who have applied for, but not yet been allocated, Dental Foundation Training (DFT) places this year. The Association says that sufficient places must be available by the time a second round of allocations takes place this summer.

■ Dentists across England and Wales are being invited to influence the agenda for debate at the 2014 Annual Conference of Local Dental Committees (LDCs). Dentists can send their suggestions directly to their LDC or forward them to alexandra.cenic@bda.org. Suggestions must be accompanied by the name of the dentist proposing them and their GDC number. Ideas submitted via the BDA must also identify the Local Area Team or Health Board area in which they practise. The deadline for suggestions is 21 April and the LDC conference takes place in Manchester on 13 June.

■ The British Snoring and Sleep Apnoea Association has contacted the *BDJ* requesting to draw readers' attention to National Snoring Week. This year's event takes place on the week commencing 28 April and the Association aims to raise awareness through distributing leaflets, posters and sample products to businesses and charities. To find out more email stephen@britishsnoring.co.uk or visit www.britishsnoring.co.uk.

■ NICE is conducting a public consultation, which runs until 31 March, on its vision for an enhanced British National Formulary (BNF) service. To help shape this vision NICE wants to hear the views of dentists involved in prescribing or handling medicines. To find out more visit <http://nice.org.uk/mpc/NICEBNFconsultation.jsp>.

■ A National Assembly committee is looking at the provision of orthodontic services across Wales. The Health and Social Care Committee has begun a consultation and is asking people to contribute their own experiences from around the country. To contribute email HSCCommittee@wales.gov.uk by 4 April 2014.

BDJ TEAM

The year 2013 marked *Vital* magazine's tenth anniversary, but amidst the celebrations, changes were afoot. After a decade of delivering in both print and online a wealth of information, inspirational stories, CPD and research to the whole dental team, *Vital* is being re-launched this March as online only, monthly magazine *BDJ Team*. Laura Pacey spoke to *Vital* and *BDJ Team* Editor Kate Quinlan to find out more.

How will *BDJ Team* be different to *Vital*?

BDJ Team will build upon the success and popularity of *Vital*. The main difference is of course that it will be on the Internet rather than printed, but this will mean that articles will be published more often. There will be a monthly issue of *BDJ Team*, rather than four issues a year of *Vital*, and with the new website it will also be possible to publish news and other new content at any time – not just in issue format. Anyone will be able to read *BDJ Team* on a computer, tablet, or on their smartphone, so it will be very accessible.

Why is *BDJ Team* online only? What are the benefits of online only?

It's true that *Vital* has always been popular as a print magazine, but there are now well over 60,000 dental care professionals (and counting) registered with the GDC, and we want to reach as many of them as possible. Going online is moving with the times, better for the environment and means that we can publish content more often. Readers will be able to click on to the website anytime. The ten-year archive of *Vital* articles will also still be available.

Was it hard to decide on a new name?

We wanted to align *Vital* more closely with the *BDJ*. The *BDJ* is a very strong brand, well known

BEHIND THE SCENES ON *BDJ TEAM*



'There are now over 60,000 dental care professionals (and counting) registered with the GDC and we want to reach as many of them as possible. Going online is moving with the times and better for the environment..'

and respected and very well established. *Vital* has always been the *BDJ*'s 'sister publication', but the name *BDJ Team* will reinforce this! I think it was important to retain the word 'team', so we have!

Has it been fun choosing the new logo and redesigning the website?

We have all contributed our ideas but it has been fun seeing what Melissa Cassem, the Art Editor, has come up with for the new logo and web banner, although she is working to quite a tight deadline so I am not sure how much fun she has had! Melissa and I have both been working on the *BDJ* portfolio for ten years, so being involved with new projects and redesigns certainly keeps things interesting and challenging.

As we speak, the first building blocks of the new *BDJ Team* website itself are about to be put in place on the new web platform. I will have a lot more direct control

over content that is published on the website than with the old *Vital* website, which is exciting.

What have you learned from the re-launch? Have there been any issues you weren't expecting to face?

I've learnt that launching a new online product with a new website and CPD scheme in less than half a year is incredibly difficult! Luckily our publisher, Rowena Milan, is highly capable and has led the project, bringing together the many different departments and individuals required to accomplish such a feat. I've helped where I can, but really articles and content are my forte!

What excites you most about BDJ Team?

The challenge of publishing monthly and generating articles that our readers want to read; hearing readers' feedback on the new publication; and making *BDJ Team* as popular, if not more popular, than *Vital*. I'm also looking forward to the official launch we are planning for the British Dental Conference and Exhibition in April.

What can readers expect from BDJ Team?

The style and tone of articles in *BDJ Team* will be exactly the same as those published in *Vital* – they will just be published more often! We will still have interviews, features, letters, news, products, advice, research and CPD relevant to DCPs.

How would you describe BDJ Team in one sentence?

BDJ Team is a UK-based online magazine publishing high quality content relevant to all members of the dental team. The strapline is: *BDJ Team*: at the heart of your practice.

If you or one of your team members would like to stay informed about BDJ Team, which will offer DCPs ten free hours of CPD this year, email bdjteam@nature.com and also visit www.nature.com/bdjteam.

DENTAL ART

DENTISTRY THROUGH ART. PART 4

The following images and descriptions are taken from dental students Rebecca Little and Lorna Hopps' fourth year elective project.

Use of henbane

Figure 1. *Hyoscyamus niger* (henbane) is a plant from the Solanaceae family which was used in England during the middle ages to create 'potions' due to its hallucinogenic effects. Here a man portrayed as a lord-like figure puts a healing hand on his subject who is humbly bowed over a smoking pot. The lord points a finger in a suggestive way of saying 'I can heal you' and sits on an elaborate chair. He was probably a physician/surgeon and would use henbane seeds to produce a worm-like ash to fool the patient into thinking the worm which had eaten his teeth had fallen out into the fire. The patient wears an anxious expression and the physician's lordly portrayal symbolises his position of importance.^{1,2}

Out hunting for teeth (A *Caza De Dientes*)

Figure 2. A simple blacksmith leans over to extract a tooth from a flailing man whose limbs jerk out in pain and fear. The sculpture portrays the drama of the procedure from all sides. There are many intricate details in the sculpture – even including the nails of the patient. Since the sculpture is so detailed and realistic, it may be that the artist had seen this event take place and was recording the procedure. The positioning of the patient on the floor with his head between the dentist's knees was commonplace for an extraction and was not challenged until the late sixteenth century.^{1,3}



Fig. 1 Use of henbane. From an illuminated medieval manuscript, artist unknown. Around 13th century. From Roger of Salerno's *Practica Chirurgia*. Reproduced with permission from The Master and Fellows of Trinity College Cambridge



Fig. 2 The blacksmith dentist. Raimondo Pereda (1840–1915). Late 19th century. Spelter alloy sculpture. Reproduced with permission from the RCSEd

1. Discussions with Dr Maureen Park and Professor David McGowan.
2. Hillam C (ed). *The roots of dentistry: for the Lindsay Society and for the history of dentistry*. p 9. London: British Dental Journal, 1990.
3. Campbell J M. *Catalogue of the Menzies Campbell Collection*. p 122. Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, 1966.

SCOTLAND TO PROVIDE EXTRA FUNDS FOR TRAINING PRACTICES

NHS Education for Scotland (NES) is to fund additional educational resources to dental training practices which will further support the learning needs of the entire dental team and help them deliver safe, effective and person-centred care.

Learning materials will include an interactive programme on oral cancer and a suite of modules on communications skills.

David Felix, Postgraduate Dental Dean, NES said: 'NHS Education for Scotland greatly appreciates the commitment trainers make to supporting new graduates. These additional resources will allow all members of the practice to undertake

verifiable CPD at a time and location of their choosing.

'We estimate each individual within the training practice could undertake between 15 and 20 hours of CPD, over a 15-month period. The intention is to give training practices appointed for the August 2014 to July 2015 training year priority access to these educational resources which will be free of charge.'

NES already develops, organises and delivers a variety of CPD opportunities for the entire dental team, enabling them to keep up to date and deliver high quality patient care. Some are delivered as team training events in practices, whilst others are delivered within the regional postgraduate centres.

The new resources will be supplied by a provider whose learning solutions are internationally acclaimed, with interactive content and media rich platforms for dental teams around the world.

www.nes.scot.nhs.uk