

# OBITUARIES

Obituaries should be submitted by email to Annabel Nicholson at [annabel.nicholson@nature.com](mailto:annabel.nicholson@nature.com). All submitted obituaries should be 450 words maximum in length (apart from obituaries for past presidents of the BDA where the length should be 800 words). Content of the obituary is down to the individual author, and the approval of the family should be given for the obituary prior to submission to the *BDJ*.

## DENIS REID

1922–2015



Denis Reid, who has died aged 93, will be remembered as one whose life was dedicated to public service in Torbay. He graduated from Guy's Hospital Dental School, joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve,

retiring as Surgeon Lt Commander and was awarded the Volunteer Reserve Decoration in 1971. He was an enthusiastic member of the BDA, becoming Chairman of the Torquay and District Section and President of the Western Counties Branch. He was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the BDA and had also been a member and chairman of the Devon Local Dental Committee.

Alongside a busy professional life, he joined Torbay Council in 1967. In 1988/89 he was the Mayor of Torbay during a visit from the Queen celebrating the tercentenary of William and Mary. In 1988/89 Denis became the Council Leader and was granted the Freedom of the Borough in 2001. He was Chairman of the governors of Preston Primary School for 12 years and then a governor of Torquay Boys Grammar School for 32 years, being Chairman for three of these. From 1993 until his death he was the patron of the School. Denis was an early member of Torquay Round Table serving as secretary and then Chairman. He was Chairman for the Devon Area and on the national executive from 1959–1961, during which time he organised the national conferences.

In the early 1990s he became interested in the local charity Animals in Distress, becoming its membership secretary, chaired its Board of Trustees and then became its President. He was also a trustee of the George Cary Almshouses in Torbay for 35 years, becoming chairman 1997. He actively supported a fund for music students unable to afford their own

instruments, a member of the Torbay Civic Society and was instrumental in setting up the Tobay-Hellevoetsluis Twinning Association, becoming its Chairman in 1988 and then life President. A lifelong sailor, he was member of the Torbay Royal Regatta Committee for over 40 years.

Denis was born in Torquay, as were his father and grandfather. He had a great love of the town and gave so much of his time and energy to it. He could not have done this without the enormous support of his wife, Sheila. She and their four children and six grandchildren, as well as the dental profession, can be very proud of Denis's massive contribution to the life of those living in Torbay.

J. Hunt

## RICHARD GORHAM

1942–2014



Richard graduated from Bristol University in 1965, becoming a general practitioner in Poole.

Richard was always actively involved in dental politics and the BDA. As a student he was treasurer of the British Dental Students' Association journal and held the positions of secretary and president of Bournemouth and Poole section of the BDA and meetings secretary, treasurer and President of Wessex Branch. He served on Branch Council from 1973 until ill-health forced his retirement in 1996. He was subsequently elected as an honorary vice-president Wessex Branch and to life membership of the BDA.

Richard was a long-standing member and one time chairman of the Dorset LDC, a founder member of the East Dorset Dental Committee and a member of the Regional Dental Advisory committee, of SCORPDE Wessex and of COCET.

He organised evening classes for Dental Surgery Assistants locally and was a member of the Panel of Examiners for DSAs.

He became Regional adviser in General Dental Practice, Southampton University in 1986 and was honorary tutor in dental practice at University College London.

He also served on the Dental Practice Board, receiving the Diploma in General Dental Practice in 1992.

As VT adviser he coordinated 'The First Years' with Wessex Dental Vocational Trainees which was updated annually.

Sadly Richard was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, bringing his career to an abrupt end. During subsequent periods of remission he held the role of trustee on the Wessex MS committee and was also Trustee for a Retired Nurses' Home.

As his disease progressed, and he was no longer able to pursue his hobbies of travelling, particularly to his beloved cottage in France, gardening and DIY, he was able to take pleasure in his family.

He is survived by Jill, a fellow dental student at Bristol, children Andrew and Catherine and four grandchildren.

Alison Gorham

## PETER DAVEY

Peter died on 23 March 2015 after dedicated service to the Dental Profession in Northern Ireland. He is survived by his wife Rosemary, daughters Jackie and Karen and son Colin. Peter will be deeply missed by his loving family, friends and colleagues.

Peter attended the Belfast School of Dentistry Q.U.B, after which he entered the public domain of dentistry with special interest in the care of young children. He eventually rose to the position of Director of Dental Services in the Eastern Health and Social Services Board, with responsibility to the Dental School.

Distinguished as his career was, he was actively involved in the BDA benevolent fund, organising meetings to maintain ongoing contact with retired members.

Peter died after a long illness, courageously borne, working through this difficult time up until he died. That was the character of the man.

B. M. Tweedie