Obituary

Obituaries should be submitted by email to Jonathan Coe at jonathan.coe@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*

Jane Marion Reece
1954–2017

Jane Reece died on 21 May 2017 following a courageous fight against a very aggressive cancer.

Jane qualified from the Royal London Hospital in December 1978 and joined the Royal Army Dental Corps (RADC) serving in the UK, Northern Ireland, Germany, Cyprus, Hong Kong and Nepal. She took part in two winter warfare exercises to Norway and in 1991 was deployed in the first Gulf War as a casualty support anaesthetic officer (CASO) supporting the anaesthetists operating in field hospitals.

In 1999, she obtained her postgraduate diploma in forensic odontology and soon found herself very much in demand assisting the Kent Police with post mortem dental identifications and with criminal cases involving marks and bite marks on victims

of attack, rape, murder and non-accidental injury cases. In 2005 she was deployed to Phuket, Thailand to perform post mortem identifications on many of the victims of the South Asian Tsunami.

She lectured widely to professional audiences and organisations in the UK including the University of Kent, the Kent Police Force, the Royal Military Police, the Defence Dental Services, and the BDA. She was an active member of the British Association for Forensic Odontology and for several years served on the committee as membership secretary, an appointment she took very seriously and fulfilled to the highest of standards.

Jane took premature voluntary retirement from the RADC in 1999 and was immediately re-employed, as a civilian dental practitioner, at the Army Dental Centre in Chatham. She retired from clinical dental practice in July 2014 in order to devote more time to her expanding forensic dentistry practice and other related commitments.

Jane also had a very wide and diverse collection of interests outside dentistry including gardening, campanology, brass

rubbing, jewellery making, furniture restoration and classical music, to mention just a few of her hobbies. As well as being an accomplished violinist, she also sang in her local choir.

She was an associate member of the Ashford Beekeeper's Association and entered the Honey Show annually. In order to give her the best chance of winning prizes she would don her magnification loupes with head light and use dental instruments 'surgically' to extract every single bubble from the honey jars, so that points would not be deducted by the judges.

Her funeral took place at Barham Crematorium on Monday 5 June 2017 and unsurprisingly was very well attended by members of her family, friends and colleagues from the Defence Dental Service, the British Association for Forensic Odontology, and the BDA. The beautiful flowers at the crematorium and on Jane's coffin were all from her own garden in Barming, near Maidstone.

Jane is survived by her younger sister Jenny.

J. H. Hardy

The BDA Benevolent Fund has been working for over 130 years to ensure that no dentist is unsupported in times of need or crisis. Our ultimate aim is to reach more people in need. We need dentists in all areas of the UK to help spread the word.

If you know someone who is finding it hard to cope, make sure they know about the BDA Benevolent Fund. If we can help, we will. Share, like and keep up to date with our efforts on our Facebook page: facebook.com/bdabenevolentfund/