Obituaries

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*

Robert Timperley
1926–2017

Robert Timperley died peacefully on 24 October 2017 aged 90 years. Robert came from a most interesting family. Both his parents were Manchester qualified dental surgeons, but his mother was not allowed to work because wives of professional gentleman in those days did not work, even if they were professionally qualified. However, his father was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis when his mother was in the very early stages of pregnancy with Robert. Unfortunately, the father, also Robert Timperley, died very quickly after diagnosis. Robert's mother, Elizabeth Timperley, applied

for his job and was accepted. Robert had an elder sister, by 18 months, who his mother decided was not strong enough to become a dental surgeon, so she read medicine.

Robert graduated from Manchester Dental School in 1951. After one house job he was called up to do his national service, and during this, as well as working as a dental surgeon, he trained as a parachutist, which he enjoyed very much. Robert was sent out to Malaya, and he became very fond of the country and visited it many times during his life.

After his national service, Robert returned to Manchester, did two more house jobs and then took a position as dental surgeon to The Atomic Energy Authority in Cumbria. While there he married Susan Peacock, a graduate in mathematics from Oxford. Both Susan's parents were dental surgeons. Many will remember Susan's father, Jack Peacock, who became Secretary of the BDA, now known as the Chief Executive. Susan's mother, Mary

Marion Peacock, at first worked as a dental surgeon in the attic of her parents' home but later joined the school dental service. Susan and Robert had two children, Amanda and Simon; there cannot be many children where all four grandparents are Manchester graduates in dentistry. Unfortunately, Robert's and Susan's marriage did not last. Robert moved to Grantham into general practice, where he stayed until retirement, he then moved to Cambridge. Robert was a very enthusiastic member of the British Dental Association, both locally in Grantham and in the Eastern Counties Branch where he was the Treasurer for many years. He was made a life member of the BDA, an honour of which he was very proud.

Robert did not wish for a typical funeral, he was cremated without ceremony, with just the music he liked, and his children and Shirley Zangwill present. He has left money to have a party later to celebrate his life.

Shirley Zangwill

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/bdabenenevolentfund/