



UNIVERSITY
of
GLASGOW

Dental Mirror



The Newsletter of Glasgow Dental School

Issue No.1

January 2007

Welcome to the First Edition

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter. This will become a regular publication, keeping dental staff and students, together with colleagues in other disciplines, up to date with key events, topical issues and major developments. The University of Glasgow and the Oral Health Directorate of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde are working closely together in the development and delivery of academic and clinical dentistry in the West of Scotland, and we will be including material that is relevant to all staff, whether working primarily for the University or the NHS.

Recent years have been challenging for Glasgow Dental School, but we have now entered an exciting period of renewed investment and significant opportunity. The past year has been a pivotal one, since we were informed in October 2006 that the General Dental Council has agreed that Glasgow Dental School will now revert to standard reporting and visitation procedures. This excellent outcome was achieved as a result of an outstanding team effort by all staff, and by the enduring high quality of our dental students and young graduates. Furthermore, in recent times we have been strongly supported at the highest levels of University and NHS management, by the Scottish Executive Health Department, and by NHS Education for Scotland, allowing us to develop a clear, sustainable strategy for the Dental School into the future.

So what of the future? The introduction of the 2004 BDS curriculum has been a major step in the recovery of the Dental School and was no doubt an important contributor to the recent GDC decision described earlier. The radical change to the curriculum was a brave but essential step, which added to the complications of its introduction, but which will allow us to emerge from the overlap period in September 2008 with a modern, integrated course that is world-leading. I would like personally to thank all of the staff for the supreme efforts that have been made both to design and deliver this completely new programme, particularly during the difficult period of curriculum overlap from 2004-2008 – we are more than half-way there!

The fabric of the premises in Sauchiehall Street is seriously in need of attention and over the past year major progress has been made in identifying commitment and funding to address the problem. Agreement has been reached by all key parties that the current Dental Hospital & School building should receive a capital injection that will allow it to be rendered fit for purpose for the next 20 years. The Health Board and the University are working together with an architect to develop plans by early 2007 for a complete re-design of the building. These plans will be scrutinised widely by key stakeholders at all levels before being finalised and the construction work commencing.

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A major challenge for 2007 will be the completion of the RAE 2008 return for the Dental School. The re-configuration of the research groups since 2001 and the implementation of our research strategy have placed us in a stronger position than previously, and the RAE Steering Group is well aware of its responsibility to ensure that maximum advantage is made of the high quality research outputs produced by staff in the Dental School. An improved rating would not only enhance the reputation of the School but also increase our central funding allocation.

The next few years will be busy and challenging, but we now have the commitment of key stakeholders to support us in re-establishing Glasgow Dental School as a pre-eminent centre for academic and clinical dentistry. I hope that the pages of future editions of this newsletter will record that positive progress. I am very grateful to Richard Welbury and Mike Broad for agreeing to compile and edit the newsletter. Please let them have your ideas for items to feature in forthcoming editions and help to make 'Dental Mirror' an informative and enjoyable read for all.

Professor Jeremy Bagg
Head of School

From the NHS

The Director of Oral Health

As Director of Oral Health for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde I welcome the opportunity to provide a few words on the key aspects of the Oral Health Directorate.

The Oral Health Directorate brings together for the first time primary dental services via General Dental Practitioners (NHS) and Community and Salaried Dental Services with Secondary Dental Services provided in Acute Hospitals and Glasgow Dental Hospital and Dental School supported by NHSGGC Board's Dental Public Health and Oral Health Promotion staff.

This single structure provides a unique opportunity to optimise clinical care and teaching for the benefit of dental patients.

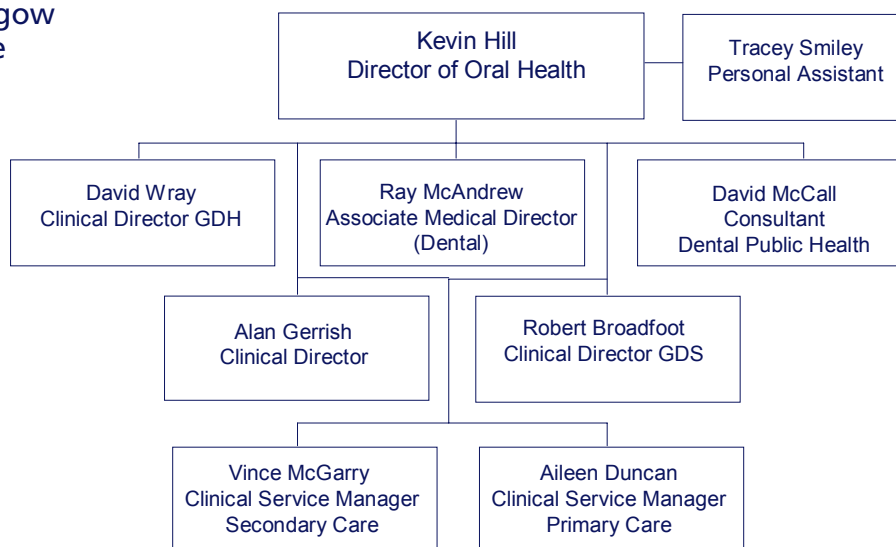
The key targets are:

- **Waiting Times**
To ensure all new patients receive an outpatient appointment within 18 weeks.
To ensure commencement of treatment following completion of assessment within 18 weeks.
- **Improve joint working with University Dental School**
To ensure that all plans for development are jointly produced and resource requirements identified and organisational responsibilities are acknowledged.
- **Enhance Learning and Teaching**
To ensure that opportunities to enhance learning and teaching are developed through patient care pathways whilst benefiting patient service and clinical delivery.
- **Investment in modern facilities and clinical techniques**
To ensure that future investment provides modern facilities and utilises clinical techniques that are at the forefront of dental service provision for the benefit of patients and the development of staff.

Kevin J Hill



Oral Health Directorate



The Clinical Director

The most significant development of the year was the setting up of the Oral Health Directorate. This has brought together all the different branches of dentistry under the single direction of Kevin Hill who has already made huge progress in making the services we provide across the Board fit for purpose.

The waiting lists continue to get smaller and we will soon be revisiting these to ensure that we hit the next targets. Certainly patients' waiting time to be seen is reduced which makes for a much happier environment. The continued improvement in waiting times is wholly due to the commitment and efforts of all the staff in making the systems more efficient and everyone should be congratulated for this.

One of the most significant things to many members of staff and students has been the reopening of the Canteen under the helmsmanship of Amer and his team who now provide us with a large and varied selection of hot and cold food to a very satisfactory standard. The Christmas lunches were spectacular. Amer is still working on improving and extending the service and is open to any suggestions from staff and students.

Apart from the Car Park there are several ongoing projects. These include our new sterilisation facility which will definitely open in 2007. In the same year we will get a newly refurbished Children's/ Ortho clinic since we now have the money for that. Also the Primary Care Treatment Centre on the first floor is now fully functional and is staffed with a group of committed dentists and nurses who are making a significant contribution to patient care. The Centre is fully refurbished and gives an indication of what the rest of the redesigned hospital will look like eventually. Work on refurbishment is progressing very fast and Jeremy Armitage, the architect, is busy sketching out the layout of the redesign which will be available for consultation in the early part of 2007.

It is our intention to host a 'Christmas Party' for all staff in February which is an expression of our thanks once again to all grades of staff.

Professor David Wray

From Dental Nursing

During the last year Glasgow Dental Hospital and School has seen huge change within the Dental Nurse Service. The career path for Dental Nurses has been re-structured and now provides excellent career opportunities. The appointment of three Dental Nurse Managers has been a huge step forward for the service. Each Manager works closely with the Dental Nurse Team Leaders from each sub-speciality and has a supporting role with the Lead Clinician and Service Manager. The Dental Nurse Team Leaders role has expanded with new responsibilities and the management of Dental Nurses at function hospitals in some areas. This structure continues to allow Dental Nurses to be represented at management level whilst still having clinical input.

Another step forward for Dental Nurses is compulsory registration. All Dental Nurses by law must be registered with the General Dental Council by July 2008. This gives Dental Nurses recognition and support of their professional profile.

“Agenda for Change” has now been implemented and it is the biggest change to the pay and grading system and terms and conditions of all NHS staff since the NHS formation in 1948. This brings the opportunity to develop and enhance skills. With the introduction of Personal Development Plans and Continuing Professional Development, dental nurses will find their career development more structured. This development encourages Dental Nurses to pursue their careers and may help with the retention of staff.

This is now a new and exciting time for Dental Nurses with many challenges and opportunities ahead. With the implementation of these changes Glasgow Dental Hospital and School will endeavour to be at the forefront of dental nurse education.

Elaine Hutchinson, Fiona Mackenzie, Rosemary Waters

Staff News

In issues of Dental Mirror we will be introducing new staff members in both the University and the NHS. In this issue we have covered the University. In the next issue it will be the turn of the NHS.

New University Members of Staff

Liz Alexander	Secretary to Director of Education and BDS Secretary
Maria Parker	Assistant Manager – Clinical Techniques Laboratory
Frank Bonner	Outreach Administrator
Fraser McCord	Professor of Restorative Dentistry
David Watson	Senior Clinical University Teacher-Restorative Dentistry (Outreach)
Zayneb Makki	Clinical University Teacher Oral Pathology
Colin Murray	Senior Clinical Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry
Gordon Ramage	Senior Lecturer in Microbiology
Niall Rogerson	Clinical University Teacher- Restorative Dentistry

Congratulations

Emeritus Professor Ken Stephen has been awarded the 2007 IADR Distinguished Scientist Award - H.Trendley Dean Memorial Award for Dental Public Health.

Dr Steve Creanor has been appointed Professor of Oral Sciences and Director of Undergraduate Dental Studies at the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry, a joint appointment between the Universities of Plymouth and Exeter. Steve is due to commence his duties at the beginning of April 2007. We would like to thank Steve for all his work at Glasgow over 20 years. He was appointed Lecturer in 1987 and internally promoted to Clinical Senior Lecturer in 1990.

Research Matters

Within the Dental School we have three main research groups. We will be updating readers of progress within one of these groups in every issue of Dental Mirror.

BACS is the Biotechnology And Craniofacial Science Group. The research within this group is focused on the following four main themes:

1. **Bone Bioengineering.** The group is looking at inducing bone formation for reconstruction of the jawbones using cytokines and therefore avoiding the use of autogenous bone grafting, which consequently minimises the morbidity associated with the procedure. We have established an industrial partnership with Stryker Biotech, which is providing us with Bone Morphogenetic Protein (rh-BMP7), which has been used to reconstruct mandibular defects in animal models, and is currently utilised in humans.
2. **Three-Dimensional Imaging.** This is a collaborative research initiative with the Computing Science Department and the Department of Statistics at Glasgow University. We have developed, modified and utilised a new imaging system, based on the recent advances in stereophotogrammetry and 3D imaging, to capture facial morphology. This method has been utilised to assess the changes following surgical repair of cleft lip and palate, and also to evaluate morphological changes after orthognathic surgery. This method has been used to measure small changes following injection of collagen in facial wrinkles. We are currently investigating the building of a virtual human face by superimposing three-dimensional soft tissue of the face to the underlying skeletal structure. This would be utilised for 3D orthognathic surgical planning and prediction.
3. **Alcohol and Facial Injuries.** In the West of Scotland we are dealing with patients with alcohol related facial injuries every six hours; unfortunately we treat facial fractures and lacerations but we do not address the underlying problem, which is alcohol abuse. Therefore, our research group looked at the effectiveness of providing brief motivational interview by a well-trained nurse to reduce alcohol intake in these groups of patients. We have proved the effectiveness of these methods, which we hope would eventually reduce the recurrence of the facial injuries that we see in the West of Scotland, and also reduce the amount of facial trauma that we have to deal with on a daily basis.
4. **Pain and Anxiety Control.** The group is looking at a modern method of controlling pain and anxiety in dental practice. An infusion pump has been developed, which is under the patient's control, to reduce pain. This theme is linked with the Anaesthetic Department at Glasgow University. The group is also investigating control of pain and anxiety in the paediatric population, which would have a significant impact on the quality of care delivered to our patients.

Current Research Grant Awards involving Staff

Preventing oral cancer- a smoking cessation intervention in a dental setting for patients with potentially malignant lesions. £130,000.00. A S H Scotland. V Binnie, G C F Smith, S McHugh.

Does photoactivated disinfection (PAD) improve clinical outcomes of root canal re-treatment in vivo and is it effective upon in vitro root canal biofilms. E5, 000 European Society of Endodontology Annual Research Prize 2006-2007: C A Murray, C J Whitters, G Ramage, M P Riggio.

Study of Virulence genes in the pneumococcus. £20,000.00 GlaxoSmithKline. A Smith.

A molecular epidemiological analysis of invasive pneumococci in Scotland 2001-2005. £105,000.00. Wyeth Pharmaceutical. A Smith.

Potential for transmission of prion proteins through dental procedures. £1.2M. Department of Health. A Smith.

Feasibility of assessing dental case records for detailed past dental histories in CJD cases and controls. £36,915.00. A Smith.

Investigation into the Contribution of IL-17A versus TNF α in Chronic Inflammation by Blockade with an Anti-human IL-17A Antibody or in Combination with a TNF α Inhibitor, Enbrel or Humira. Immunohistochemical Expression Analysis of IL-17A and Key Associated Molecules in Skin Biopsies from Subjects with Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis. £138,000. Astra Zeneca/ Cambridge Antibodies Technology. C A Murray.

Investigation of ligands of Toll-like receptors in atherosclerotic tissue. £2,000. Synergy Pump Priming Competition 2006-2007. C A Murray, M P Riggio.

Production of Video/DVD based materials to promote dental students communication skills within clinical settings. £5831.60. Teaching and Learning Development Fund, Glasgow University. V Binnie, A Crothers, S Wilson.

In vitro study of methods of measuring Nitrous Oxide in the dental surgery. £15,000.00 Scottish Executive. M T Hosey, J Whitters, R R Welbury.

The prevalence of chronic periodontitis and other oral complications in non-smoking patients with type I diabetes mellitus. £190,000 -Chief Scientist Office. P J Hodge, K Paterson, G L F Smith, S McHugh and L Brocklebank.

The influence of cigarette smoking on the plasminogen activator system in periodontal disease; £1,850. Oral and Dental Research Trust D F Lappin and P J Hodge.

Evaluation of the West of Scotland Child Oral Health Improvement Demonstration Programme. £455,000.00 Scottish Executive. L Macpherson.

A multidisciplinary assessment of residual deformities following surgical repair of cleft lip and palate. £149,289.00. Chief Scientist Office. A Bell, A Ayoub, M T Hosey, R R Welbury.

New Curriculum for Management of Maxillofacial Deformities £322,580.00 Tempus. A Ayoub.

A clinical evaluation of the effects of dental chair-side general anaesthesia and midazolam premedication on cognitive function and access to future dental care. £117,000.00. Chief Scientists Office. M T Hosey and R R Welbury.

Randomised clinical trial of the effects of total intravenous anaesthesia versus volatile anaesthesia on children's post-operative cognition, behaviour and physical morbidity £225,000.00 Chief Scientist Office. M T Hosey and R R Welbury.

Reduction of alcohol abuse, aggression and facial injury - a randomised trial of brief intervention strategies in patients with alcohol related facial injuries £100,000.00 Strathclyde Police. C Goodall and A Ayoub.

Education Matters

From the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education.

It seems difficult to believe that we are now one third of the way through the third year of the 2004 BDS Curriculum. I can vividly remember one of my first, and most difficult tasks, as a newly appointed Associate Dean for Dental Education, being to chair the meeting in 2002 which rejected the plans for a new curriculum. However, by the end of 2003 those plans had been revised, based on a comprehensive set of learning outcomes. They were accepted by the University and the new curriculum came into being in October 2004, thereafter to be known as the 2004 Curriculum.

The fact that it has progressed so smoothly from there on is due to the dedication of a great many people: academic staff, NHS clinicians, nurses, managers, radiographers, receptionists, just about everyone who works in this building. I am personally grateful to all of them but, more importantly, all of these people can take pride in the knowledge that we are pushing the standards of dental education ever higher and that, ultimately, that is to the great benefit of the community we live in.

The students also deserve great credit for the progress made. They have patiently borne last minute changes and all the other minor hitches that one might have expected. I am particularly sensitive to the fact that students on the pre-2004 curriculum might feel slightly neglected. This is far from the case and if any of them are reading this I can assure them that whenever any innovation has been proposed my first thought has been to ensure that the quality of education and experience delivered to pre-2004 curriculum students has not been diminished. Students in the current 4th and Final year have been exceptionally understanding and helpful during the curriculum overlap period and the whole School should be grateful to them.

Work on BDS4 is virtually complete and our plans will go to the University early in 2007. In many ways this will be the most "traditional" looking of all the 2004 Curriculum years. In Final Year students will spend almost half of their time in Outreach and work is progressing to ensure that the facilities are up and running by September 2008, which is when they will be needed. For the remainder of their time students will do "Core modules" and "Special Study Modules". The core Modules will be: Endodontics & Fixed Prosthodontics, Minor Oral Surgery and Decontamination Training. A major task now is to develop the Special Study Modules and it is my intention to hold a series of meetings with key players in the New Year. If anyone has any ideas for SSM's they should let me know! It is incredible to think that in 18 months time the first 2004 Curriculum students will be approaching graduation!

What we do to provide academic and pastoral support for all our students is always near the top of my agenda. Mentors play an important role in this, as do the Advisers. Our Advisers are: Stuart MacDonald, Marie Therese Hosey, Petrina Sweeney and Mike Broad. Any student experiencing difficulties of any kind should consult an Adviser in the first instance. They should know that their conversation will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. The only exception to this will be in circumstances where, for their own or someone else's safety, information must be shared. In future newsletters I hope to provide some more detailed information about our support systems and issues such as Fitness to Practise.

Once again, my thanks to everyone for their help and support during what is a challenging time. Best wishes for a productive 2007!

Dr Vincent Bissell

From the Students

Bringing the BDSA Conference North to Glasgow, 15th – 18th February 2007.

The next time you feel work and study becoming a chore; or you can't bring yourself to face another week of rain on Sauchiehall St, get involved with something. In the dying weeks of term before the summer, suffering from exam malaise, a few of us decided to do just that.

“Has the BDSA Conference ever been north of the border?”

We're not sure, but it will be in 2007.

I can honestly say that bringing the conference to Glasgow has been a terrific experience from start to finish, and I think you should all take the time to organise your own pretend bid for a conference in Glasgow. Our presentation included lectures in the heart of the Universities main building; tours of highland distilleries; the west end night life, and balls in converted churches; all held together by many, many pictures of luscious parks and smiling dental students. Suffice to say that when we flew to London to deliver it, our (self obsessed) southern colleagues loved it.

All of this took place before the summer holiday, but many of us are still relishing in the perks of hosting the conference. Perks like being met off the plane by a champagne wielding Mike Broad on our return from London. Perks like expenses paid days out to Gleneagles (thanks to the Glasgow tourist Board for letting me shoot clay pigeons for the day, and apologies to Dr Cross for missing her cons tutorial). Perks like having to organise a weekend worth of events for 300 delegates- well, at the moment I'm still running on the feel good factor!

Check out our website (www.bdsaconference2007.org) to see our speakers and list of events. Thank you to everyone who has helped so far. Remember- Glasgow Smiles Better!

Andy Young, 5th year

Formal Student Functions

This year is full of opportunities to get your glad rags on, eat well then spin around until you feel “light-headed”. To all those who attended the Annual Ball held in November I'm sure you'll agree it was a huge success and for those who missed out we have more balls coming up. I'm delighted to announce the Annual ball this year saw a record turnout of 380 dentals, also the first attendance of the PCD students and SHOs. The night really went off with a bang (quite literally with exploding confetti filled ballons).

We also have the BDSA conference ball to look forward to in February. This is to be held in the Fabulous Bute Hall and will have attendees from far and wide. I'm sure this too will be a night to remember. Put the date in your diary – Saturday 17th February.

Last but by no means least the 2007 Graduation Ball, better known to staff as “The Final Year Dinner”. The MacDonald Inchyra Grange in Falkirk is the venue where on 13th of April we hope staff and students come together to celebrate the last five years. I'm hoping for a good staff attendance in order to thank you all for your hard work, help and eternal patience. We are still in the early stages of organisation but I do guarantee a great night with a few surprises in store. Emails will soon be sent out regarding booking accommodation and ticket prices however, feel free to email me 0209495K@student.gla.ac.uk to find out more details.

Fiona Kirkland, 5th year

P.S. The third years are having their half-way-dinner on Saturday 3rd March in the beautiful St Andrews in the Square Hotel and it too promises to be a highly entertaining evening. Put that date in your diary!

In the Media

Two areas of our current research strategy themes and one new development relating to patient services have recently received very positive media coverage.

The paper by Keith Hunter and colleagues “Divergent routes to oral cancer” was published in *Cancer Research* in August this year. (Hunter KD, Thurlow JK, Fleming J, Drake PJ, Vass JK, Kalna G, Higham DJ, Herzyk P, Macdonald DG, Parkinson EK, Harrison PR. (2006) Divergent routes to oral cancer. *Cancer Res*; 66(15):7405-13).

This paper had been identified by CRUK at the time of acceptance for publication as of sufficient interest and in keeping with their “Open up to mouth cancer” campaign to merit a press release. This arrangement meant that all of the work associated with dealing with the media was taken care of by the CRUK Press Office, but we did get the final say on the wording of the press release. We had no idea how much interest the paper and press release would generate, but were delighted to have widespread coverage in newspapers (largely using Reuters copy).

We were all amused that the Metro article also included a picture of Paul Harrison, which was rather old and had been “borrowed” from the CRUK website. The greatest opportunity was in broadcast media. Paul Harrison was interviewed for several radio stations, including Clyde FM and Q96. The BBC Scotland coverage, both in the Dental School and at the Beatson Institute, was the most satisfying, yet terrifying experience. It was a real step into the unknown, but we were pleased with how it came across on TV and on Radio Scotland. The item (and video) is still on the BBC website: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/5234464.stm>.

This publicity did allow us to get the important message of early detection of oral cancer into mass media again, but the effects beyond this have not been so obvious. There was no media interest in a meeting of Head and Neck Cancer Researchers held in November, as “there was no story”. The publicity also raised the profile of our research within CRUK. Hopefully this will translate into further funding support, but the long term effects of this remain to be seen.

The second area of interest in the media was the work of the Alcohol Research Consortium which is a multidisciplinary group within BACS concerning alcohol and facial injury. A huge number of facial injuries in Glasgow are associated with alcohol and for the past 3 years the group has been researching ways of helping patients to cut down their drinking using nurse-provided brief motivational interventions.

Our new project which, in addition to addressing the alcohol issue, hopes also to address the high levels of interpersonal violence involved in these injuries has been funded by the Violence Reduction Unit at Strathclyde Police who have given us £100,000.00. Karyn McCluskey, Principal Intelligence Analyst from this unit has become a welcome addition to our team.

When the Police talk about ‘launching something in the media’ they certainly do a good job; they produced an article for the Daily Record and it all took off from there. Christine Goodall was interviewed by the BBC for Reporting Scotland, Radio Clyde and Real Radio. The Glasgow Herald also ran a two page feature article on the project in November and Christine has since been interviewed by Cathy McLeod for BBC Medical Matters on Radio Scotland and this will be transmitted in January.

Another result of all the media coverage was that Professor Ayoub was asked to talk at a high profile violence meeting organised by Violence Reduction Unit of Strathclyde police in November. Now we just have to get on with the project which is due to start early 2007!

The third area of interest in the media happened on the 20th July when Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board officially launched a dental service specifically for homeless people in Glasgow. The

service has been hailed as pioneering since it is the first known dental “practice” set up to treat homeless patients. Although the brainchild of Ray McAndrew and Derek Attwood, the service is currently staffed by two salaried General Dental Practitioners – Diane Swanson and Abigail Heffernan, with nursing support from Claire Marshall. The aims of the service are to provide standard NHS dental care to those who are homeless and unable to access treatment at a Dental Practice. Much treatment is aimed at pain relief with subsequent appointments being arranged for continuing dental care, to restore the patient’s dental health.

Since we are responsible for the day to day running of the service, we were asked to speak to the media about what we do and why! Several members of the press arrived at our surgery in the Community Centre for Health at Partick, including representatives from the Evening Times, West End Mail, Daily Record, The Big Issue, Radio Scotland, Saga Radio, Real Radio, STV and BBC TV! We were overwhelmed by the interest in what we were doing and subsequently appeared in newspapers, lunchtime news programmes and even heard ourselves on the radio!

The result of the interest from the press generated a huge amount of publicity for us and meant news of our service reached potential patients who hadn’t met us before. This in turn resulted in an increased number of referrals for treatment – both from homeless organisations and from patients themselves. In general, the media were very supportive of our service and the stories that were written were accurate reflections of the needs of our patients and the aims of our treatment. One article which was written sometime after our launch was not particularly supportive of us and did not at all represent what we do here. The article accused us of providing homeless people with cosmetic dentistry which was meant to improve their self esteem!! An e-mail confirming that the article was totally inaccurate to the deputy Minister for Health resulted in a response from the Scottish Executive further supporting our service and once again resulting in an increase number of patients attending for much needed dental care. The service currently operates four days per week and is growing in patient numbers almost every day! The clinic is at 547 Dumbarton Road, Partick, Glasgow G11 6HY and the telephone number is 0141-211 1414.

Spreading our name Worldwide

The following colleagues have been invited speakers at International Meetings.

Ashraf Ayoub	Congress of the European Association of Cranio-maxillofacial Surgery, Barcelona, September. 2006. 6th International conference on Bone Morphogenic Proteins. Dubrovnik, October 2006. 15th International dental conference of Alexandria University, Egypt, November 2006.
Vince Bissell	Conjoint Symposium of the RCSEd and the Hong Kong College of Surgeons. Hong Kong in October 2006.
Yvonne Blair	Western Equality and Human Rights Forum. Ireland. December 2006.
Mike Broad	School of Dental Technology, Wroclaw, Poland. November 2006.
Marie Therese Hosey	Chilean branch of the IADR, Valparaiso, Chile. October 2006. German Paediatric Dental Society- Joint meeting of German, Swiss, and Austrian Paediatric Dental Societies. Friburg, Germany. October 2006.
Richard Welbury	1st Malaysian Paediatric Dentistry Conference. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 2006. Malaysian Dental Association, Penang, Malaysia, November 2006.

Personal Reflection

Dentistry in Valparaiso

I was delighted and honoured to receive an invitation from Juan Eduardo Onetto and Marie Therese Flores of the University of Valparaiso to speak at both the Chilean IADR on 6th October 2006. I had never been to South America before and had no idea what to expect. Certainly the prospect of keeping an audience entertained for four and a half hours on Paediatric Dental Sedation was a trifle dauntingbut the lectures were duly e-mailed, burnt onto CDs, placed on two memory sticks and the laptop got lugged half way across the globe ('just in case....')! Air France tickets were duly provided and I was really appreciative of the fact that my husband Edward was also invited as my escort. The Paris-Santiago flight stops briefly in Buenos Aires, though after 18 hours of travelling, this held little appeal. However, the onward flight over the Andes was spectacular. Two very jet-lagged and tired Hoseys were greeted with such kindness and enthusiasm by our two hosts that it felt like coming home. We quickly had to find some agreement re nomenclature... MT'1' & MT'2' and Edward '1' and Edward '2'.

After a beautiful drive across the fertile plains and onwards westwards through the mountains we arrived in Vigne Del Mar (known by the Chileans as Vigne), a holiday resort town of approximately 80,000 population, that was reminiscent of California. The neighbouring city of Valparaiso ('Valpo') was the first port of call for ships rounding Cape Horn before the Panama Canal was built. The multicoloured houses are stacked precariously up the mountainside. There is thought to be at least 40 hills, each with its own unique community and character and many with their funicular railways still functional. The city itself is a mixture of British (mainly Victorian), German and French architecture and is gradually being rejuvenated. Professor Eduardo Couve (Edward '3'), an oral pathologist, gave us a tour of the old city and we were delighted with his knowledge and insight and his love of black and white photography- must be all that electronmicroscopy. The following day we went on a magnificent day trip to the vineyards of Casablanca (the Sauvignon Blanc was fantastic) and then on to Isla Negra: one of Pablo Neruda's homes. As a poetry lover, I really enjoyed this and bought an English translation of his works. Surprisingly, we found many traces of Glasgow; there was a figurehead from a Glasgow ship wrecked on Cape Horn in Pablo Neruda's home (actually in his living room) and Eduardo Couve showed us a beautiful leather bound 1840s catalogue from the MacFarlane Ironworks in Possilpark (there is a display about this foundry in the Kelvingrove Art Gallery). A clear link to Glasgow's merchant past.

I was invited to visit our host's paediatric dental practice. Marie Therese ('2') and Eduardo ('2') are well known for their interest in Dental Traumatology and they have an extensive database. However, they are particularly keen to introduce nitrous oxide inhalation sedation into Chile. So much so, that during the practice visit I was interviewed by a TV crew and ended up on the local and national news that evening.

At the opening ceremony of the Chilean Branch of the IADR I presented a University of Glasgow Quaiche to the branch President and suggested that he could fill it with 'pisco sour'- the Chilean national drink. The Chilean minister for Education was present and went on to deliver a speech to the assembled delegates about dental education.... I even heard him mention the Bologna model. Robert McKerlie will be pleased to know that the Dental School in the University of Valparaiso is also developing Moodle based teaching.

The next day my lectures were well attended and well received and the simultaneous translation didn't seem to spoil my jokes. The Chilean Health Minister sat in the front row and stayed throughout! I hope that I've helped Marie Therese a little in her campaign to introduce nitrous oxide inhalation sedation into Chile. I hope to play host to them here in the future.

Dr M.T. Hosey

Comment from the Editorial Team

We have been charged with the task of getting the Newsletter up and running for all staff and students within the GDHS. We want the Newsletter to be inclusive and not exclusive, both in content and in readership. It will go out electronically to all staff and students and there will also be hard copies at various venues throughout the GDHS and further afield. The Newsletter will be published three times a year and will allow a regular overview of news in the building. However more than that, we would like staffs who have retired or staffs who have moved away from Glasgow, as well as all alumni of Glasgow University and Dental School to be kept updated on current events within the building.

The Newsletter will only be successful if readers are willing to provide items and articles of interest. Some topics will be recurring but we will do our best to seek new material of interest to all. We hope that you will be willing to contribute where you think material is appropriate. Our thanks to all those who have contributed to this first edition of the Newsletter.

Good Health and Happiness for 2007 to you and yours.

Richard Welbury and Mike Broad

Contact Address:
University of Glasgow Dental School
Glasgow Dental Hospital & School
378 Sauchiehall Street
Glasgow G2 3JZ

Telephone main switchboard: +44 (0) 141 211 9600

Email contacts of the editors:
R.Welbury@dental.gla.ac.uk
and M.Broad@dental.gla.ac.uk

Web address at Glasgow University, Dental School -
Link is: www.gla.ac.uk/schools/dental/

Web address at Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board –
Link is: www.nhsgg.org.uk/content/