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<tr>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Roberts, Anthony</td>
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<td>Publication date</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of publication</td>
<td>Contribution to newspaper/magazine</td>
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| Item downloaded from | [http://hdl.handle.net/10468/2938](http://hdl.handle.net/10468/2938) |

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Meet your new President 2009/10
Professor Francis Hughes

Emeritus Member

BSP Serves up Masterclass

A Celebration of Sir Wilfred Fish

A great start to the Diamond Jubilee Year

Presidential Handover

At the Autumn Meeting 2009, Professor Gareth Griffiths handed over the reigns of the Presidency to Professor Francis Hughes.

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is once again proud to sponsor The BSP
Presidential Address 2009 **“wow!!”**

Firstly I would like to thank all of you in the Society for the enormous honour you do me by asking me to serve as your president, particularly in this special Diamond Jubilee year.

My first challenge as your incoming president is to deliver a suitable address, something which has occupied my mind for some time. My very distinguished predecessors have ably tackled this task in many different ways such as adopting a range of autobiographical, clinical, scientific and political themes, typically in an erudite and witty way. By way of change I decided that I would make my own address into an advertisement, or perhaps more correctly an “informal,” to highlight some of the thinking behind the meetings I have planned for my presidential year, and along a rather tortured way flag some other issues which excite or concern me.

I was initially inspired to follow a career in Periodontology by Frank Ashley at Guys, who by a delightful coincidence was BSP President 10 years ago when the society celebrated its Golden Jubilee. There are many others who have inspired me since including Fred Smales and Newell Johnson at The London. Today I continue to find periodontology an exciting discipline, which in scientific, research and clinical arenas is still able to make me feel “wow!”

I am confident that you all also have your own “wow factors” in periodontology. Thus we come to the WOW test to test yourself by starting with a non-periodontal example to warm up - this year England won the Ashes with 2 games to spare! The World Cup in football was won by Rioni Size and Reprazent for their album New Jet Set! The Mercury Music Prize was won by Roni Size and Reprazent for their album New Forms, which has not perhaps stood the test of time for that year’s judges.

Periodontology there are many things that might fit this type of “wow” reaction. I have chosen a couple which précis information in the 1998 Adult Dental Health Survey. From this data and BSP Parameters of Care it can be estimated that up to 4 million people in the UK might benefit from some sort of Specialist Dental Care. Against this there are less than 300 periodontists on the Specialist list (approx 1:13 000) and around 900 members of the BSP (approx 1:4000).

What is even more disconcerting is that the prevalence of disease on this scale did not appear to be affected by dental attendance patterns. That is to say, you were just as likely to have periodontitis if you attended a dentist regularly compared with someone who never attended a dentist. Thus in conclusion it seems that in population terms we may be only scratching the surface of treatment need. The BSP, on its 60th Birthday, is a thriving, vibrant society with many things to be proud of. However as its membership we all still have lots of challenges and responsibilities to promote and develop our discipline further.

Francis Hughes

There is a basic clinical fact in periodontology which all should remember well and that is just how effective periodontal treatment can be. Essentially tooth survival rates following well conducted periodontal treatment, even in severe cases, are probably better than implant survival rates (figure 2).

Turning to the Society’s meetings this year, in Brighton we will assemble to discuss “20 years of Periodontal Regeneration – where are we now?” Since the introduction of Guided Tissue Regeneration about 20 years ago a number of innovations and techniques have come along. Certainly the explosion in the understanding of the biology of the regenerative processes involved contains much that is “wow” about it. However our clinical results and outcomes remain often frustratingly modest (and definitely not always “wow”).

The Autumn Scientific Meeting takes as its theme: *“Plaque or Death – Does Plaque Really Cause Periodontal Disease?”*

For me this is not just a gimmicky title but a serious question – when we are starting to understand just how complex the aetiology of this disease is, it is nigh that we should continue to say that plaque is the cause of periodontal disease. For example it may be true that smoking does not cause periodontal disease in the absence of bacteria, but conversely it may well be true that bacteria do not cause periodontitis without the presence of some other factors such as smoking. Here I suggest a few random statements that have a touch of wow about them:

**Smoking increases the risk of periodontitis by about 5 fold (!) – what is most striking about this widely accepted statement is not that it might be true, but that 20 years ago we had no idea that this was the case, and thought it was all down to the bacteria:**

*From the epidemiology, type II diabetes mellitus may be responsible for about half a million cases of periodontitis in the UK.*

*Single gene mutations, without primary microbial alterations, can cause periodontitis both in animal models and in humans.*

A specific clone (J2P) of a specific bacterium (Aa) appears to cause periodontitis in a specific human population (perhaps the best evidence of a direct causal effect of bacteria in one type of periodontal disease).

Finally the word “wow” is sometimes used to denote something that is not necessarily exciting, but rather that is surprising or unexpected. A personal non-periodontal example is this.

In 1997 Radihead released their seminal album “OK Computer,” widely regarded as one of the finest albums of all time. However that year the Mercury Music Prize was won by Roni Size and Reprazent for their album New Forms, which has not perhaps stood the test of time for that year’s judges.

Periodontology there are many things that might fit this type of “wow” reaction. I have chosen a couple which précis information in the 1998 Adult Dental Health Survey. From this data and BSP Parameters of Care it can be estimated that up to 4 million people in the UK might benefit from some sort of Specialist Dental Care. Against this there are less than 300 periodontists on the Specialist list (approx 1:13 000) and around 900 members of the BSP (approx 1:4000).

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Francis Hughes

As we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the BSP it is very pleasing to report that the Society is thriving. Under the excellent stewardship of Professor Gareth Griffiths our membership has continued to grow and is now approaching nearing 1000 members. Externally, the BSP is regarded (dubiously in my view) as one of the best organised, effective and most welcoming specialist societies in UK dentistry. This does not happen by accident. The hard work and commitment of the officers of the Society often goes largely unsung but without their efforts we would not really function. In addition we have recently had fantastic administration provided by Anne Hallowes and latterly by her successor, Helen Clough. Finally, the society is only as good as its membership and it is important that we do not let this opportunity slip without comment.

Members will be aware that we have recently initiated a debate as to whether the Society should change its name to reflect the growing importance of the practise of implant dentistry within periodontology. I do not wish to state my own personal preferences here but would comment that ultimately the wording of our name is much less important than the clear recognition that I think is evident that implant dentistry, particularly surgical aspects, is today very much a part of our discipline. I hope you will all wish to participate in this debate – please let us have your comments through the website.

Finally, in amongst the discussion of the society, I would also like to comment on the very sad deaths of 3 past presidents of the Society, Bryan Wade, Graham Smart and Bernie Kieser. Tributes to these great people have been made elsewhere but I would also like to make a point about the immense contributions to the Society and to British Periodontology generally. They will be sorely missed.

Francis Hughes

*Fig. 1 Where the action is — Histology of a periodontal pocket. A mature plaque biofilm (P1) is established on the root surface (R). Raphus nerve (N) travels through the pocket epithelium (Epith), and leave the body to enter the pocket and attempt to wall off the plaque. Essentially if this process is ineffective then the disease is progressive. Figure 2 Radiographs taken of a patient prior to treatment (A) and 20 years later (B) following a course of nonsurgical treatment and long term simple maintenance therapy. Perhaps remarkably, although in line with published outcome data, there is no evidence of further disease progression. Note also the remarkable survival of a Rocheville tooth placed during initial therapy.*

*Fig. 2*
A Celebration of Contributions

During the last year the Society has lost 3 prominent members with the passing of Bryan Wade, Graham Smart and Bernie Kieser. It was fortunate enough to have known all 3 being worked closely with Graham and Bernie, but only encountering Bryan in the latter years of his career.

As President of the Society at the time, Bryan Wade wrote to me in December 2008 and early in his letter he said “Don’t feel that we really know each other though we we must have met”. We had met, but I was in my 20s at the time and Bryan was in his 60s, so it is not that surprising that I was aware of him, but he did not know me. I first became aware of Bryan through the British Society of Periodontology in 1981 when I attended my first BSP meeting, Bryan of course was a prominent figure in the Society. I then moved to London in 1983 and became more aware of Bryan, at meetings in the London area and through contact with the postgraduates he taught. Although I never worked with Bryan and was never taught by him personally, I know what high regard people who were fortunate enough to have enjoyed this experience held him by. Bryan was one of the founder members of the BSP and was secretary 1954-1956. He was President of the Society in 1963 and had a second term of office in 1984-1985 when the BSP hosted the North Sea Conference in Cambridge in 1984. For younger members of the Society the first of these conferences precedes Europerio and involved the Dutch, Scandanavian and British Societies all of whom have contributed enormously to the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP). The only other person to have served as President on 2 occasions was Sir Wilfred Fish in the first year, 1939-1940 and then again in the Silver Jubilee year of 1973-1974. Bryan was also one of the Honorary members of the Society in recognition of his vast contribution over 50 years. Despite retiring 21 years ago Bryan kept a keen interest in the activities of the Society and what was happening in the world of Periodontology. 10 years ago he made a major contribution to the booklet on our history, which the Society produced as part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations. The letter he sent me in December 2008 was as a result of him receiving “the winter edition of BSP News,” which reported on the very successful meeting organised by Graham Smart in Cambridge. This of course sparked happy memories for Bryan. A special note for our new editor is that Bryan was moved to comment “I find the News so ably edited by Philip Ower most interesting, though I did detect a few signs of disquiet in the last edition”. He then went on to comment on 2 mistakes he felt the Society had made over the years. firstly he felt we had “missed an opportunity for Periodontology to have the same status as Orthodontics and Oral Surgery” and secondly he felt “far too much authority is being given to hygienists”. And he had heard that apparently some patients have not seen a dentist for 2-3 years”. Still showing interest in the Society age 86 and 21 years retired is something lots of us might aspire to.

Bernie Kieser died in September having fought cancer over the last year. It was very bad news that Bernie that he defied all the predictions of the course of his illness, surviving longer than expected. Bernie was President of the Society in 1989-1990 and was made an Honorary Member in 2001. During his time as President, Bernie was instrumental in probably the Society’s most significant event which was to introduce Anne Hallowes as Administrative Manager to the Society, a post Anne has just retired from. This was a step which changed us from an organisation run on goodwill, and great enthusiasm into a more professionally run organisation which many of the other Societies envied. Bernie was a very active member of the Society who last presented his provocative thoughts at the Spring Meeting in Cambridge 2008 where one of his former students, Graham Smart, was President.

I had the privilege of sharing an office with Bernie for many years at the Eastman and learnt a huge amount from him about periodontology, dentistry, teaching, sport and life. Many of the students passing through his hands have benefited similarly from his teaching and questioning approach. For a man who preached a non-surgical approach to Periodontal therapy, he also had one of “the best pairs of hands” for surgery that I have seen. It was Bernie’s funeral the day of our September meeting and several members were torn as to where they should be. However, with the title “Plaque on Trial” I know that Bernie was somewhat pleased at that moment of a question or an argument to put forward. This is because Bernie was always a flamboyant ambassador for Perio who loved to challenge verbally and intellectually what was understood as accepted thinking. He provoked people into self-reflection, making you examine your beliefs and practices. He was a person you could go to for advice and he would be the first to help without expecting anything in return. Bernie liked and enjoyed people, particularly if he could help them in some way. He, like the Bryan and Graham will be a sad loss for us all.

Gareth Griffiths

The most recent General Assembly (GA) was held in London on Saturday 28 February, 2009. Members of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly met at the Tudor Rose Room of the Sheraton Park Lane Hotel in London. The GA is a meeting of all members of the Executive Committee and the EFP Secretariat for their year during the Silver Jubilee year of 1973-1974. Bryan was well known as a practitioner, teacher and research worker and made a significant contribution to Periodontology in general and the Society specifically. I was fortunate enough to work with Graham when I was working for the Medical Research Council undertaking a study at RAF Halton. I also worked with him on a study of local delivery antimicrobials, so we published together. Graham always had a thoughtful, considerate, meticulous approach and was a joy to work with. I would also recognise the valuable contribution that Graham made to me in my early days as an NHS contract holder. The pair have educated and inspired many dentists and hygienists up and down the country. As a testament to his dedication Graham was fulfilling a teaching obligation a few weeks before he died. Many of the tributes that were sent to the family along with condolence messages highlighted many of Graham’s attributes but the things that stood out for me were; that Graham was no pushover, but a good and principled man. In his obituary we wrote “...he was principled, tactful and showed good judgement. A true gentleman!”

Bernie Kieser

The EFP General Assembly, London

The General Assembly of the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) was held in London at the Park Lane Hotel on Saturday 28th February, 2009. The GA serves as the President’s Annual Meeting, at which the EFP representatives from the National Societies (56 people in total) attended this important meeting. The President, Richard Palmer opened the meeting by welcoming all the representatives of the national societies and thanking the Executive Committee and the EFP Secretariat for their support during his year of presidency. As the GA meeting agenda was very extensive, the President very briefly reported on the main activities in 2008 including the Spring Meeting in Cambridge where the Standing Committee on Scientific Affairs met, the EFP News, which reported on the very successful meeting organised by Graham Smart in Cambridge. This of course sparked happy memories for Bryan. A special note for our new editor is that Bryan was moved to comment “I find the News so ably edited by Philip Ower most interesting, though I did detect a few signs of disquiet in the last edition”. He then went on to comment on 2 mistakes he felt the Society had made over the years. firstly he felt we had “missed an opportunity for Periodontology to have the same status as Orthodontics and Oral Surgery” and secondly he felt “far too much authority is being given to hygienists”. And he had heard that apparently some patients have not seen a dentist for 2-3 years”. Still showing interest in the Society age 86 and 21 years retired is something lots of us might aspire to.

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Gareth Griffiths
Himalayan Dental Adventure!

By Shekha Bhuva

Shekha, a Periodontology MClinDent trainee at Guys Dental Hospital took time out this summer to go on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Nepal as a volunteer dentist. Here she talks about some of her experiences.

I had been looking for a volunteer dental project for some time before coming across “Smilehigh”, a charity founded by Lady Margaret and River Sefton. Shekha Hiralal had carried out several successful dental missions in Nepal in the past as well as sponsored a tooth brushing project in the Kathmandu Valley.

The latest trip however was to be the most ambitious so far. Add to the mix a remote Himalayan village, helicopter transport, a United Nations medical and dental camp with international volunteers. It sounded like just the adventure I was after – I was in!

The mission ran in conjunction with the United Nations Food Program which supplied 11 months worth of rice and lentils to the area. Their Initiative involved encouraging the local people to work hard to help their own village in exchange for regular nutrition food. A great example of empowering people to help themselves.

After a breathtaking helicopter ride over the Himalayas we reached Samagon, a remote village in the Nubri valley (3800m above sea level), overlooked by the magnificent beauty of Mount Manaslu (the world’s eighth highest mountain 8163m). Samagon (population approx 600) is geographically isolated. The closest road to Kathmandu is a 6 day hike away. It has been called the Forgotten Kingdom; until 1992 there was a complete government restriction of foreigners into the area. It was the 1980 earthquake that opened the area up to the outside world.

Our restorative room had 2 wooden beds. Electricity only ran at specific times, so we had to make provisions to power our 2 handpieces. A headlight proved invaluable here. Small cavities were restored with GIC - I couldn’t help but get my scalers out to provide a much needed clean set. Extractions were carried out outdoors, away from triage and the restorative area so other patients didn’t get scared by the blood and also to keep ‘posers’ out! All such instruments underwent autoclave sterilisation so instruments were always available. Although this was the first dental experience for most locals, they let us carry out work without fuss and were so appreciative of the service we were able to offer. The main sugar intake was sweet tea, with few western sugary treats infiltrating into this remote area. Although a small percentage of children had healthy teeth, many villagers had suffered for a long time with untreated dental diseases, namely periodontics and caries.

In total we examined approximately 600 patients, some walking for 5 hours from surrounding villages and monasteries to reach us. We placed over 250 fillings and extracted 300 teeth. At least 700 toothbrushes and toothpastes were distributed. A great initiative by one of the dentists was to give all the children animal balloons - I can’t even count how many of those we handed out! I feel fortunate that as a dentist to be able to offer some small service to this village. Leaving behind kauries of our ‘normal’ lives for just a week really made me appreciate how much we take for granted. It is clear that life in Samagon is tough, with a great need for more medical and dental care, especially female care there is a high mortality associated with pregnancy and childbirth.

This was a humbling and satisfying experience; full of adventure, breathtaking natural beauty, spirited and grateful local people and clinicians with a passion to make a difference. I feel honoured to be part of such a great project and would go back without hesitation!

Acknowledgments.

A huge thank you for all those who supported us through this mission. Brian Ooral, Colgate, Dental hygiene scheme, SBD and GAT Dental School, Bhuva Dental Practice, Hemel Hempstead and all others. Thanks to the UN WFP, and Smilehigh for support.

Prizes Awarded

The Society awarded the 2008 Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize to Dr Mike Mallard of Birmingham University for his project “Modulation of the host response to periodontal pathogens utilising a natural antioxidant”. The certificate was presented at the Spring 2009 meeting in Sheffield.

Dr Louise O’Dowd of Newcastle Dental Hospital was awarded a Certificate of Merit for her project “Patient perspectives on the impact of periodontal disease” and this certificate was presented at the Autumn 2009 AGM.

There were 3 applications for the Frank Ashley Research Prize this year, all of which were of a high standard. The winner was Cameron Herbert from Glasgow Dental School for his project “The antimicrobial activity of Tetracycline against periodontal pathogen members. This work is of clinical relevance to dental health and is a potential for immunomodulation.”

There was one application for a rapid response audit award this year which supports audit proposals with funding to a maximum of £500 for each. The two awards funded were to Kathryn Durey, SHO at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary for her project “Audit of the quality of periodontal referral letters” and to Karen Lafferty, mTH for Newcastle for her project “A multi-centred audit into patient awareness of the effect of smoking on periodontal disease in South Wales”.

There were no applications for the Research Grant or the Clinical Fellowship. The next round will be held at the Spring 2010 meeting in London.

Congratulations Prof!

In August 2009, the Honorary Secretary of the Society, Philip Preshaw, was awarded a Chair at Newcastle University, and is now Professor of Periodontology and Dental Restorative Dentistry at Newcastle.

He is also a UK Department of Health/Medical Research Council National Clinician Scientist. He received a Distinguished Scientist Award from the International Association of Dental Research in 2009 and was awarded a King James IV Professorship from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 2008 for his contributions to dental research. When not involved in research, he can often be found throwing plastic disks around weirdly shaped fields, as he plays ultimate frisbee for Newcastle’s Team, The Brown, in the UK national tournaments.

Congratulations on your promotion, Philip.

Membership news

The Society has had a successful year under the Presidency of Professor Gareth Griffiths. The total membership has increased slightly last year with 904 members, up from 896 last year (being an increase of around 3%). The membership comprises: 17 Honorary Members, 660 Full Members (of whom 93 are overseas), 29 Post-graduate members, 33 Spls, 18 First 4 years members, 3 Undergraduate members, 36 Associate members, 137 Hygienists/Therapists, 80 Associates, and 6 Fellows. Although the total number of members has not changed much since last year, there have been 128 new members this year in 2009. A total of 115 of our members are located overseas. There are 3 undergraduate members, who for a very beneficial membership rate of £25 per year, receive access to the Medical and Dental Journal and the website as well as the benefits of access to the Members Only area of the website, and reduced registration fees for conferences.

The Royal Bestowal and Decoration for Ubele van der Velden.

Ubele van der Velden, a great friend to the BSP and Honorary Member, has been decorated by the mayor of his home town (Amstelveen). Ubele was clearly honoured to receive a Royal Bestowal and Decoration September 18th, after presenting a retrospective talk at 40 years of periodontology with ideas for the future at a scientific symposium. Ubele was decorated with ‘Officer of the Order of Orange Nassau’. Apparently the mayor gave a very nice speech. I say ‘apparently’ as unfortunately my editor was not present and not familiar with the Dutch language. Those that are can view the comments by Jan van Zanen, the mayor of the City of Amstelveen, at the following website:

http://www.amstelveen.nl/whatsnew/162131485.png?d=4

Road shows continue...

The theme for the road shows is “Core Values for Treating Patients in Practice” focussing on Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment. The road shows have been highly successful, and have been run in Dundee, Newcastle, Southampton, Liverpool and Manchester, with a total of 809 delegates attending to date. The feedback has been uniformly outstanding, and the next road show will be held on 17 April 2010 as part of the Founders and Benefactors Event at Newcastle University.

Editorial Change

After many years as your Honorary Editor, an exhausted Dr Phil Ovler has decided to hang up his editorial boots. I’m sure that you will all agree with me that the BSP Newsletter has evolved significantly during his tenure and the publication is a credit to him, his contributors and the BSP. I would like to personally thank Phil for his meticulous attention to detail which became apparent during the roadshows which was done on a sunny morning in the Eastman courtyard before a Council meeting. It was at that precise moment when it suddenly dawned on me what I had agreed to take on. Of course, Phil is a keen photographer and so he has kindly agreed to continue on as the BSP paparazzo. Many thanks Phil for all of your hard work and I will endeavour to continue on in the same manner.

Groham Smart Memorial Lecture

At the 2009 BDSIT annual conference in Bournemouth in October, Phil Ovler delivered the Graham Smart Memorial Lecture to over 200 delegates, including a few BSP members. Graham and Phil had originally been asked to present by the BDSIT President, Marina Harris, and it was at Marina’s suggestion that the title was modified as a tribute to Graham who had had a long association with the BDSIT and its predecessor, the BDHA. The theme of the lecture, planned by both Graham and Phil, was “Periodontal Therapy at the Crossroads: Infection or Inflammation?”

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Spring Meeting 2009

The President, Professor Gareth Griffiths, held his spring meeting for 265 delegates at Sheffield Hallam University on 13th & 14th April 2009. The theme of the meeting was ‘Aggressive Periodontitis’. After a welcome by the President, the session chair, Mr Raj Joshi introduced the opening speaker, Professor Urs Brägger, who had agreed to extend his presentation because Professor Tonetti was not able to be with us as a result of family illness.

In his presentation he discussed the biological and technical risks associated with tooth and implant supported fixed reconstructions in periodontally-affected dentitions. This was followed by an extended discussion session. The conference dinner was held in the splendid Cutler’s Hall. Guests were entertained during the reception by the Pisgah string quartet. After dinner Phil Steele, BBC Wales sports commentator, and friend of the President, held the attention of the guests with many amusing and topical stories, some at the expense of those at the President’s table!

During proceedings Professor Griffths awarded the Sir Wilfred Fish prize to Dr Mike Milward, and received a cheque from Mr Simon Gambold of Henry Schein in recognition of the partnership agreement with the Society. He also conferred emeritus membership of the Society on Anne Hallows, who has retired, having served as Administrative Manager for 20 years. He presented Anne with a number of gifts in appreciation of her work and support.

Gifts were also presented to Ghilaine Ower our conference manager, supported by Sandra Orr, the assistant honorary manager and Helen Clough, the new administrative manager, who were welcome into the Society.

We are also grateful to Ghilaine Ower our conference manager and Helen Clough, the new administrative manager, for their help in the organisation of this meeting.

The Saturday morning session, chaired by Professor Gerry Linden, opened with a joint presentation from the President accompanied by Professor Francis Hughes who addressed the issues of aetio-pathogenesis and the difficulties of classification. We are grateful to both speakers who stepped in at short notice and helped to clarify this difficult topic.

Professor Mogens Kilian then spoke on genetic diversity among human subjects and within bacterial species. He referred to the JP2 clone of Aa which has enhanced virulence and causes higher prevalence of aggressive periodontitis in subjects of Mediterranean and West African origin.

After coffee Dr Luigi Nibali discussed genetic risk factors in aggressive periodontitis. He reviewed the evidence that genetic susceptibility could influence the host response to infections, and the interactions between our genetic susceptibility and our bacterial flora.

After lunch Professor Francis Hughes used the literature and his own findings to examine the prognostic factors determining treatment outcome in generalised aggressive periodontitis cases. He reviewed the evidence for tooth survival and non-responding sites, and considered the use of adjunctive treatments.

Professor Paul Hatton described how tissue engineering could be used to replace tissues lost as a result of periodontal disease, but highlighted the difficulties of trying to use these techniques within the hostile environment of the mouth and more specifically the periodontal pocket.

After tea Dr Ulpee Darbar discussed the use of dental implants to rehabilitate young patients who, as a result of aggressive periodontitis, suffer from early tooth loss.

The meeting closed following a good panel discussion led by the session chair Professor Andrew Rawlinson, with keen questioning from the audience.

The Society is grateful to the major sponsors of the meeting, GlaxoSmithKline, Colgate and P&G Professional Oral Health.

BSP Serves Up Masterclass

The Sheffield meeting was an excellent conference in a great location and venue. It also scored another first in that two hands-on courses were run as part of the conference. The first was a specialist level masterclass in microsurgery delivered by Professor Marcus Hürzeler. The second was a course on examination and treatment planning for GDPs and hygienists delivered by Professor Andrew Rawlinson, Mr Raj Joshi, Mr Keith Figures and Mr Chris Dinsdale. Both courses were heavily over-subscribed and were considered to be highly successful. None of our meetings would happen without the extremely hard work and dedication of Ghilaine Ower, our conference manager, supported by Helen Clough, our new Administrative Manager.

Elsewhere, sessions on “Periodontal Probing and Treatment Planning for the Periodontal Patient” were being held. At coffee, your editor mingled with those delegates and it was clear that these sessions was also a thoroughly enjoyable and informative. Be assured, further Masterclasses are being organised, the next being in January 2010 (see page 15).
2009 was a EuroPerio year, and EuroPerio 6 was held in Stockholm from 4-6 June 2009. This was an excellent meeting, with some outstanding presentations. There were also lots of learning opportunities for those who might think of hosting EuroPerio in the future, such as ensuring that lecture halls are big enough and that there are adequate catering facilities available. 232 delegates from the UK attended the meeting, a very impressive turnout.

One Whitehall Place where a fabulous time was had by all.

The incumbent President, Professor Francis Hughes held his Autumn Scientific Meeting at The Royal Institution of Great Britain on 24th and 25th September 2009. This was a Diamond Jubilee meeting and began on the Thursday afternoon with the Jubilee Celebration of the Sir Wilfred Fish Prize and subsequent competition. Following this, a debate ensued with two short presentations, one “for” and one “against” a change of name for the Society made by Professor Nikos Donos and Dr Isobel Madden. Professor Nikos Donos proposed that a change of name would align the BSP with a number of other EFP member societies.

Conversely, Dr Isobel Madden supported the proposal that within the name BSP, all aspects of the field are included and that we should not limit ourselves to particular areas of the subject and therefore the name should remain unchanged. This was a healthy debate and it was great to see so many contributions from the audience. No doubt this will be an ongoing discussion.

To mark the occasion, a Diamond Jubilee Dinner was held at One Whitehall Place where a fabulous time was had by all.

The Friday morning began with the Annual General Meeting which was followed by the presidential handover. Professor Hughes delivered his Presidential address “Wow!!” see Page 2 in this newsletter.

The remainder of the day was spent putting ‘Plaque on Trial’ with a series of distinguished speakers tackling the issue of whether plaque really does cause periodontal disease. Professors Dietrich (Birmingham), Bergström (Stockholm), Needleman (London), Preshaw (Newcastle) and Curtis (London) then examined this area in detail. This was a great meeting and a wonderful Jubilee Celebration.

The Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize

The Sir Wilfred Fish Research Prize, instituted in 1970, is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Society. It is awarded annually with the object of encouraging researchers in the early stages of their career.

Delving into the BSP archives has uncovered the names of previous winners who will be familiar to many within the Society. These include our current President who was awarded the prize in 1985. The Autumn Diamond Jubilee meeting was a suitable forum for a celebration of this research activity with presentations from Professor Ian Mackenzie (the very first winner of the prize), Professor Gregory Seymour, Professor Iain Chapple, Dr Yu-Kang Tu and Dr Anousheh Alavi. As always information for anyone interested in competing for this prestigious award in the future, details can be found at the BSP website. (http://www.bsperio.org.uk/awards.htm)

Previous Winners

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>IC Mackenzie</th>
<th>JW Rippin</th>
<th>JV Soames</th>
<th>GJ Seymour</th>
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<td>HF Sewell</td>
<td>R Soglie</td>
<td>N Sabag</td>
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<td>KS Komman</td>
<td>DV Clerheugh</td>
<td>KA Eaton</td>
<td>SJ Poole</td>
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<td>JE Clague-Moore</td>
<td>FJ Hughes</td>
<td>JR Radford</td>
<td>PA Heasman</td>
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<td>DF Kinane</td>
<td>BH Mullaly</td>
<td>S Pritlove-Carson</td>
<td>PJ Byrne</td>
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<td>MT Gibson</td>
<td>ILC Chapple</td>
<td>M Lubbock</td>
<td>CN Kennett</td>
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<td>JS Ellis</td>
<td>GN King</td>
<td>JA James</td>
<td>AJ Biddle</td>
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<td>T Myrillas</td>
<td>S Shiodaira</td>
<td>F Lundy</td>
<td>H Fraser</td>
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<td>S Haworth</td>
<td>G Brock</td>
<td>M Llorente</td>
<td>YK-Tu</td>
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<td>L Nibali</td>
<td>A Roberts</td>
<td>N Bostanci</td>
<td>M Milward</td>
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Helen Clough has been appointed as the Society’s new administrative manager

Helen has an illustrious and varied background which ensures she will be perfectly suited for her new position with the Society. She has over 30 years’ experience of health care in both the NHS and the private sector, as well as the business sector. Within the NHS, she has worked at a senior level both in nursing and general management, and has recently been appointed as a lay member to the PCT in Leeds. She has worked as a magistrate for the last 10 years, with a special interest in family work. While working for Bradford Hospitals NHS Trust, she worked variously as a Systems Accountant, a Business Development Manager, and as the Complaints Manager for the Trust. She has also worked as the Legal Practice Manager for a firm of solicitors in West Yorkshire.

Helen lives in Yorkshire with Arthur and Dotty, with whom she enjoys fell walking in the Yorkshire dales. Arthur and Dotty are her two labradors. She spends what little free time she has cooking for friends, singing with her local choral society and indulging her passion for opera. She enjoys sailing and has recently discovered windsurfing although she admits it will be better when she learns how to turn.

Helen brings a wealth of varied, and highly relevant expertise to her new position, and the Society is incredibly fortunate to have secured her services.
I shall always be indebted to Bernie Kieser who, in 1989 when he became President of the British Society of Periodontology, recommended to Council that I should become the Society’s administrator. I had worked with Bernie for many months in the preparation of his book “Periodontics: A Practical Approach” and he was aware of my experience as an administrator and medical secretary.

In addition to the day-to-day administration of the Society I organised the Spring and Autumn meetings and the Roadshows, the largest meeting being the joint meeting with the BDHA and IAP in May 2001 when Hubert Newman was President and which was attended by 650 delegates. However with the demands of an increasing membership as the Society grew, Council came to the conclusion that the time had come to take on a Conference Manager and in 2004 Ghilaine Ower was appointed and it has been a pleasure to work alongside her since then.

Serving the Society has been a great honour and I have made many friends. It was a privilege to assist Frank Ashley in arranging the Society’s 50th Anniversary celebrations and to be invited to the Diamond Jubilee dinner held on 24 May 2009 as the Society’s first Emeritus Member.

My last official duty as the retiring Administrative Manager was to support members attending EuroPerio in Stockholm where I was delighted to meet a number of overseas members with whom I had been communicating for many years but whom I had never met.

I have enjoyed the close working relationship with Monica Guiney of the European Federation of Periodontology and with the staff of Munksgaard in Denmark and latterly with Blackwells in Oxford.

As I say au revoir, I wish to thank my husband, Ashley, for his unstinting support as well as our daughters, Suzanne and Kirsty, who helped with the preparation for meetings in the early years.

Finally thank you to the Society for bestowing on me the honour of becoming the first Emeritus Member, thank you for the gifts which were presented to me by Gareth Griffiths at Cutler’s Hall, Sheffield in March 2009 and thank you to the many members who have wished me well in my retirement.

I wish the Society best wishes for its future as it faces new challenges and every good wish to Helen Clough, my successor.

Au Revoir from Anne Hallowes

Professor Val Clerehugh has kindly produced a taster of what is to come from her in the future:

Since 1986, the British Society of Periodontology has advocated that adults be screened for periodontal diseases in General Dental Practice. These original guidelines were updated in 2001 with the inception of the Basic Periodontal Examination (BPE) in the UK (1) and similar systems operate in Europe and the USA.

However, at present there are no universally agreed guidelines for periodontal screening of children and adolescents. Therefore, currently, the British Society of Periodontology and the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry are working on a joint initiative led by Professor Val Clerehugh and Dr Susan Kindelan with the aim of formulating and disseminating periodontal guidelines for the under 18s which are quick and easy to use in practice (2) and based on evidence-based principles.

The proposed system involves assessing six index teeth (UR6, UR1, UL6, LL6, LL1, LR6) using the usual WHO 621 style probe with a 0.5 mm ball end and black band at 3.5 to 5.5 mm. BPE codes 0-2 will be used in the 7- to 11-year-olds and the full range of codes 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and * will be used in the 12- to 17-year-olds (Figures 1 and 2) - use of the index teeth in these age groups is to avoid the problem of false pockets (3). Guidance will also be given on which cases warrant referral for specialist care, such as those shown in Figure 3.
Website Update

The use of the BSP website continues to be at a high level with the number of hits now close on 1.4 million. We have recently had a lot of new members join the BSP which is very encouraging. For those not familiar with the website there is a jobs page that enables you to post adverts. It is easy to use and you can also post jobs on behalf of non members. There is also a case studies page with 10 very interesting cases to view. The website can also be used for posting details of periodontal courses. As a society we are keen to promote courses so if you have details of courses you want posting then you can send them to me to upload (addyld@cardiff.ac.uk). The website also has the presentations from last year’s road shows available for you to look at. Based on the attendance levels and the feedback these would be well worth a look at and can be accessed from the Meetings presentations download page. One part of the website that is overlooked by members is the forum. This provides an opportunity for members to discuss clinical issues amongst other things. One example of an interesting forum item is the discussion on the use of Periostat started by Phil Ower. Once you are into the forum the most useful forum is the clinical one. Have a look at some of the threads. There are a couple of cases that have been discussed as well and are worth a read.

If you hyperlink to the members area from the home page the forum link is on the left hand side of the page (you will need your members username and password - if you have forgotten it there is a link on the right of the page). Once you are into the forum the most useful forum is the clinical one. Have a look at some of the threads. There are a couple of cases that have been discussed as well and are worth a read.

If you are up for posting an item yourself this is also very easy. You have to do is click on new topic and type away. You can also attach pictures or documents as well. The system will notify you of a response to your posted item by email when it occurs.

A discussion topic entitled “should we change the name of the BSP to include implants?” is now on the website... an ideal opportunity to have your say. Liam Addy, Webmaster.

Caption Competition

This year’s competition photograph was captured at EuroPerio6 in Stockholm 2009.

Entries to the editor please at anthony.roberts@manchester.ac.uk.

All entries may be published... an ideal opportunity to have your say.

The Editor’s decision is final!

Coffee Time

For those of you with a few moments during a patient cancellation, try and find the names of all of the current Council members. If you are really struggling, the Editor would suggest that you remind yourselves who is on Council by looking at the last page of this newsletter!

Advanced Instrumentation Skills with Jeanie Suvan and Ruth Glover

Date: Saturday January 30th 2010 09.30 - 16.30

Cost: £275 to include refreshments and lunch

This course is designed for individuals who will be teaching instrumentation skills for subgingival debridement to young practitioners and hygienists.

The course will include:

• A review of current instrumentation techniques
• A variety of innovative hands-on teaching aids & practical exercises
• The use of a variety of hand and ultrasonic instrumentation
• Hints for increasing instrumentation efficiency
• The use and limitations of various model systems for teaching
• Teaching motivation

Future Meetings

Spring Meeting
Brighton 25 – 27th April 2009

20 years of Periodontal Regeneration - where are we now?

It is just over 20 years since periodontal regeneration techniques became a reality for our patients. Over this time there have been a number of techniques and products come along for this therapy but results have been variable. Recent advances have also identified the possibility of new generations of regenerative therapies with wider application and more predictable outcomes, including the use of growth factors, tissue engineering scaffolds, and further down the line of stem cell and gene therapies.

We have assembled a stellar cast of some of the foremost clinicians and scientists in the world in this field to speak at this meeting. These include PierPaolo Cortellini, Leonardo Trombelli, Chris McCulliech, William Giannobile, Richard Palmer and Dieter Bossardt. The programme will cover the history of regenerative techniques both clinically and biologically, where we are today including practical tips and evidence on outcomes, and considering the potential for the new therapies based on emerging regenerative technologies. We particularly hope that the programme will give an excellent mix of clinical detail and scientific background. In addition we will be running one parallel session on periodontal maintenance to be addressed by Phil Ower, Jeanie Suvan and Peter Heasman. We hope that our speakers will be of particular interest to members of the dental team including dental hygienists.

The meeting will be held in the Brighton Dome, a venue very suitable for the society’s diamond jubilee celebrations and indeed the very stage on which ABBA won the Eurovision song contest! We hope that the programme will give an excellent mix of clinical detail and scientific background. In addition we will be running one parallel session on periodontal maintenance to be addressed by Phil Ower, Jeanie Suvan and Peter Heasman. We hope that our speakers will be of particular interest to members of the dental team including dental hygienists.

Brighton in spring is a great setting for this meeting so we hope you will put the event in your diaries now!

British Society of Periodontology Masterclass

Advanced Instrumentation Skills with Jeanie Suvan and Ruth Glover

Venue: Eastman Dental Hospital, London
Eastman Clinical Investigation Centre, 256 Grays Inn Road

Date: Saturday January 30th 2010 09.30 - 16.30

Cost: £275 to include refreshments and lunch

This course is designed for individuals who will be teaching instrumentation skills for subgingival debridement to young practitioners and hygienists.

The course will include:

• A review of current instrumentation techniques
• A variety of innovative hands-on teaching aids & practical exercises
• The use of a variety of hand and ultrasonic instrumentation
• Hints for increasing instrumentation efficiency
• The use and limitations of various model systems for teaching
• Teaching motivation

Maximum numbers: 20

6.5 hrs verifiable CPD

Booking opens on-line from 1st December 2009:
www.bsperio.org.uk
Honorary Treasurer's Report

Report of the Honorary Treasurer of the British Society of Periodontology
2008 Accounts presented at the Annual General Meeting
Royal Institute of Great Britain, 25th September 2009

Professor Heasman opened his report to the membership by confirming that the accounting period was for the financial year 1st January to 31st December 2008 and that the accounts had been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2005).

The financial summary for 2008 showed a deficit of (£55,083) due to a total expenditure of £286,413 outweighing the income of £231,330. Almost all of the deficit was because of the increased costs of running the Society which were associated with a number of items: Fellowship grants, prizes, Council expenses and accountancy costs. The cost of the electronic journal had also increased in relative terms as a direct consequence of the weak pound against the Euro and because this payment is made annually in Euros. The meetings in 2008 were run at a small deficit of £3,655 but this was reduced from the previous year.

The Treasurer recommended:
• To increase the subscriptions for all levels of membership the Society by £10.00 in 2010
• That Council, on behalf of the membership considers carefully appropriate measures to make savings for 2010
• That we retain the services of Richard Barwick as accountant to the Society
• That we retain the services of Herbert Parnell as independent auditors to the Society

The AGM voted to support the Honorary Treasurer and Council's recommendation that the Society retain the services of Mr Richard Barwick in the preparation of the accounts and of Herbert Parnell, Chartered Accountants, in the independent examiner or audit of the accounts.

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A special mention to Professor Val Clerehugh,
Dr Philip Ower and Dr Mike Milward for their excellent photographs used in this newsletter.

Henry Schein* is once again proud to sponsor The BSP