Dentist awarded MBE

Public Health Consultant recognised in New Year Honours List

Dentist Dr Colette Bridgman has been awarded an MBE in the New Year’s Honours List, the only one in dentistry to be recognised this year.

The list was announced on 29 December, and having received the news in November, Colette told Dental Tribune it was hard to keep it a secret. “The letter... arrived in late November. It was quite a distraction from Christmas preparations and it was really hard not to tell everyone. I do admit that I could not keep it from my husband and children and they kept the secret really well.”

Colette, a Dental Public Health Consultant in Manchester, received the award for her services to dentistry and oral health. Since qualifying, Colette has served as President of BASCD (2009-2010), and chaired the Oral Health Strategic Planning Group, and the New Pilots clinical training programme. She established and chairs the shadow Local Professional Network for dentists for the 10 PCTs in Greater Manchester, and is currently seconded to commissioning development within the NHS Commissioning Board (NHSB) working on securing excellence in secondary care and community dental service commissioning.

Recently, Colette launched ‘Baby Teeth DO Matter’ in Rochdale, an initiative launched following reports that at least 20 per cent of three year-olds suffer with tooth decay in the area, increasing to 50 per cent by the time they reach school age.

Colette said on receiving her MBE: “To have a contribution to dentistry recognised in this way in the New Year’s list is a huge honour. I am passionate about the importance of dental public health to dentistry and oral health and so I am very pleased that the honour system has included it. I am very conscious that in everything I have done I have worked in teams with others. I have been fortunate to work with some amazing dentists and patients taking part. I hope the lessons from this work will influence a fair and supportive new contract system. I trust the dental community will rise to the opportunity that having a single outcome focussed commissioner in the NHSB presents, and that collaborative LPNs for dentistry will start to function and make an impact to benefit patients and the population by making effective use of the resources we have.”

Colette hopes that her work will have a positive influence: “The NHSB will be the commissioner for all dental services from April 2013 and this affords an opportunity to level up to the best across England. Needs-led preventive care pathways focussed on outcomes are being piloted by the DH in practices across England and are welcomed by clinicians and patients alike. I hope the lessons from this work will influence a fair and supportive new contract system. I trust the dental community will rise to the opportunity that having a single outcome focussed commissioner in the NHSB presents, and that collaborative LPNs for dentistry will start to function and make an impact to benefit patients and the population by making effective use of the resources we have.”

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* Offers available from 2nd January until 28th February 2013. Full details on all offers available on request

www.dental-tribune.co.uk
Birmingham’s new dental hospital gets go ahead

Plans to build a new £30 million dental hospital in Birmingham have been approved by planning officers at Birmingham City Council. Birmingham City Council has officially approved plans to build a new multi-million pound state of the art dental hospital on the former BBC Pebble Mill site in Edgbaston. A new School of Dentistry for the University of Birmingham will also be constructed on the site.

The project will be managed by Calthorpe Estates in association with Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Trust, the University of Birmingham, Birmingham and Solihull LIFT and One Creative Environments.

Work is due to begin on the site in the spring and the project will hopefully be completed by 2015.

Calthorpe Estates development director Ralph Minott said: “From Calthorpe Estates’ earliest masterplan proposals for Pebble Mill back in 2003, this second major medical approval will cement our ambitions for growth and regeneration at Pebble Mill, linked to this important hub of medicine, learning and life sciences within Birmingham.”

Struck off dentist imprisoned

A dentist, who continued to work after being struck off by the General Dental Council (GDC), has been sentenced to seven weeks imprisonment.

Mr Amir Kamburov, whose registered address is in Sutton in Surrey, was erased from the GDC’s Register with immediate suspension on 11 July 2012, however he lodged an appeal against that decision but remains suspended and not allowed to practise dentistry in the UK.

The GDC, the organisation which regulates dental professionals in the UK, has helped the Crown Prosecution Service and Metropolitan Police Drugs Directorate bring a case to court after allegations that he continued to practise dentistry despite being suspended.

On Friday 7 December 2012 Mr Kamburov pleaded guilty at Lavender Hill Magistrates’ Court in London to fraud by false representation and to practising dentistry unlawfully. He was remanded for Community Reports.

A further complaint was received by the GDC that Mr Kamburov continued to practise dentistry.

He was re-arrested by officers of the Metropolitan Police and charged with an offence of fraud by misrepresentation and two offences of unlawfully practising dentistry. He pleaded guilty to these three offences at Lavender Hill Magistrates’ Court on Friday 21 December 2012 and was again remanded until Friday 28 December 2012 for sentencing.

On 28 December 2012, he was sentenced to three weeks imprisonment on the first fraud offence, four weeks imprisonment on the second to serve consecutively making a total of seven weeks imprisonment. No separate penalty was imposed in relation to the charges for unlawfully practising dentistry.

Mr Kamburov’s suspension is recorded on the GDC’s Register.

Care Quality Commission ‘still failing’

The House of Commons’ Health Select Committee has criticised the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in a new report published in 9th January.

Despite a previous report in 2011 that said the CQC had “failed to properly balance the demands of registering health and social care providers with the need to rigorously inspect and social care – patients are re-service better.”

David Behan, the CQC’s new chief executive, said the regulator had carried out a strategic review and was in the process of making changes. “We will ensure that openness and transparency are at the heart of the way we develop. “We are focused on protecting and promoting the health, safety and welfare of people who use health and care services.”

Dental staff raise hundreds for charity

Hundreds of pounds have been raised for charity by dental staff following a Christmas fun run.

Staff at College Street Dental in Burnham-on-Sea donned elf costumes and ran 10km, all in the name of charity.

Practice manager Karen Jury-Dando was joined by Nurses Julie Barker and Laura Brown, as they completed the ‘Christmas Cracker’ run, and raised more than £500 for Weston Hospice.

Karen, who finished in one hour and one minute, said: “We finished in good time despite the freezing, windy conditions and are very grateful to everyone who supported us.”
For the second year, The Harley Street Centre for Endodontics is running the Young Dentist Endodontic Award 2013. Applicants are invited to submit a case report of their best endodontic treatment so far. This national award is open to any young dentist who graduated in the last three years, whether they are in their Foundation Year or just starting out on their career. An application form can be downloaded from: www.roottreatmentuk.com

Julian Webber, founder of the Harley Street Centre for Endodontics, says: “We are delighted to be launching the Young Dentist Endodontic Award for the second year running. The quality of applications in the first year of this award was outstanding and they were a pleasure to read and assess. We are already looking forward to receiving entries which showcase the skills of young dentists.”

In addition to the national recognition that the award will bring, the prizes have a total value of more than £3000 and will help the winning applicants develop their endodontic skills. First prize is a full WaveOne kit from Dentsply, second prize a Morita Root ZX Apex Locator from Quality Endodontic Distributors (QED) and third prize a Vitality Scanner from SybronEndo.

The winner’s case report will be written up in a leading UK dental publication and all the successful applicants will be offered the opportunity to spend a day at the Harley Street Centre for Endodontics.

The judging panel includes: Dr Julian Webber and Dr Trevor Lamb, endodontists at the Centre and leading clinical academic Professor Andrew Eder of the UCL Eastman Dental Institute.

The application process is simple – dentists are asked to submit details of one endodontic case which showcases their ability. The deadline for applications is 31 July 2013.

Do you have an opinion or something to say on any Dental Tribune UK article? Or would you like to write your own opinion for our guest comment page?

If so don’t hesitate to write to: The Editor, Dental Tribune UK Ltd, 4th Floor, Treasure House, 19-21 Hatton Garden, London, EC1 8BA
Or email: lisa@healthcare-learning.com

Hello, Happy New Year and welcome to the first issue of Dental Tribune for 2013!

First of all, congratulations to Colette Bridgman for the award of her MBE in the New Year Honours. Anyone who has heard her speak cannot doubt her commitment and passion for better dental health and this award is well deserved for her years of service.

In this issue we have the first of our supplements for 2015, focusing on implants. We have an interesting mix of cases to show you, and I hope you enjoy them and find them interesting. I’d love your feedback on these or any articles that we feature in Dental Tribune – please get in touch with me lisa@healthcare-learning.com.

We have a new regular contributor for 2013 – Dr Alexander Holden. As a young dentist with interests in dental phobia and law (a heady mix?) I am sure he’ll have a lot to share with us. You’ll find him on page 8.

If you have a question or comment on any Dental Tribune UK article, or would like to write your own opinion for our guest comment page, please get in touch with me lisa@healthcare-learning.com.
Routine antibiotics unnecessary for dental work

Routine antibiotics should not always be recommended to patients with orthopaedic implants prior to having dental procedures, say the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) and the American Dental Association (ADA).

This is due to insufficient evidence that routine dental procedures cause prosthetic joint infections.

“As clinicians, we want what is in the best interest of our patients, so this clinical practice guideline is not meant to be a stand-alone document. Instead it should be used as an educational tool to guide clinicians through treatment decisions with their patients in an effort to improve quality and effectiveness of care,” said David Jevsevar, MD, MBA, chair of the AAOS Evidence Based Practice Committee which oversees the development of clinical practice guidelines.

“It has been long debated that patients with orthopaedic implants, primarily hip and knee replacements, are prone to implant infections from routine dental procedures,” added Dr. Jevsevar who also is an orthopaedic surgeon in St. George, Utah. “What we found in this analysis is that there is no conclusive evidence that demonstrates a need to routinely administer antibiotics to patients with an orthopaedic implant, who undergo dental procedures.”

The guideline was based on clinical research which examined patients with a prosthetic hip or knee, half of which who had an infected prosthetic joint. Invasive dental procedures, with or without antibiotics, were not found to increase the odds of developing a prosthetic joint infection.

GDC recruits public protection panel members

The General Dental Council (GDC) is looking to recruit 65 new Fitness to Practise (FtP) panel members to help in its public protection role.

Advertisements outlining the formal application process will appear in the national and dental trade press in February 2013 to attract applications from dentists, dental care professionals (DCPs) and lay people. To register your interest in these roles please email Katrina.paget@gatenby-sanderson.com.

The details of anyone who contacted csecretary@gdc-uk.org earlier this year to express an interest have been passed on.

Fitness to Practise panel members play a vital role in the GDC’s work to protect patients and raise standards in dentistry. The GDC has the power to take action by either removing or restricting a dental professional’s registration if they fall short of the high standards expected.

Panel members sit in public hearings and consider cases where a registrant’s fitness to practise may be impaired due to their health, conduct or performance.

The GDC is looking for 15 dentists, 25 DCPs and 25 lay members.

This is a great learning and development opportunity for both lay people and dental professionals who are interested in the proportionate and fair regulation of the dental profession, and also a challenging and interesting role which makes a difference for both the public and dental professionals.

The recruitment process is being led by the GDC’s Appointments Committee which ensures the independence of the panelists from the Council.

More details can be found on the GDC website.

New ‘shock’ adverts discourage smoking

The Department of Health has launched a new campaign to encourage smokers to quit this new year.

The campaign focuses on the message that with every 15 cigarettes smoked, a mutation is caused that can lead to cancer. A series of ‘shock’ adverts are used to convey this, showing a tumour growing on a cigarette as it is smoked, similar to the ‘fatty cigarette’ advert brought out eight years ago.

Dr Harpal Kumar, Cancer Research UK’s chief executive said: “Tobacco is a lethal product and smoking is the single biggest preventable cause of cancer. Tobacco is highly addictive and kills half of all long term smokers.

“Hard hitting campaigns such as this illustrate the damage caused by smoking and this can encourage people to quit or may even stop them from starting in the first place.”

The campaign went live on 28 December 2012 with TV, online, billboards and other outdoor advertising, and will continue until March 2013.

Researchers turn to Mother Nature for tooth sensitivity

According to a new study in ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, a natural adhesive similar to that found in mussels could help prevent tooth sensitivity and remineralise teeth.

Despite the number of toothpastes on the market that are aimed at reducing tooth sensitivity, the researchers noted there is currently no simple substance that rebuilds enamel and dentin at the same time.

To meet that challenge, they turned to a sticky material similar to the adhesive that mussels use to adhere to surfaces, reasoning that it could help keep minerals in contact with dentin long enough for the rebuilding process to occur.

The researchers coated dopamine on demineralised enamel and dentin surfaces to evaluate the effect of polydopamine coating on dental remineralisation. They found that teeth bathed in the sticky material and minerals reformed both dentin and enamel, while teeth bathed only in minerals reformed only enamel.

“Polydopamine coating remarkably promoted demineralised dentin remineralisation, and all dentin tubules were occluded by densely packed hydroxyapatite crystals,” they concluded. “Thus, coating polydopamine on dental tissue surface may be a simple universal technique to induce enamel and dentin remineralisation simultaneously.”

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Discussion of dental erosion at London event

Leading New Zealand dentist Dr Andrea Shepperson will be hosting a full day lecture on 22nd March at Chandos House, London, discussing Dental Erosion: Restorative Management of the Worn Dentition.

Dr Shepperson believes that erosive tooth wear is often overlooked by general practitioners, and that a careful history needs to be part of a thorough clinical assessment in cases of tooth wear.

Dr Shepperson has developed a special interest in restoring dentitions affected by erosive wear. Initial diagnosis, implementing preventive strategies with a hygiene team, conservative minimally invasive restorative options, and reconstruction of the smile and restoration of the entire arch are all aspects of her work.

Further information is available at www.sheppersoneducation.com/London.html

New pension clarity for training practices

The pension entitlements of training practices in England and Wales have finally been harmonised and clarified, and new pensions guidance has been published by the NHS-BSA, the National Health Service Business Services Authority.

Training practices have three separate income streams arising from:

- A training grant paid to the training dentist
- The reimbursement of the vocational trainee salary
- Service costs paid to the practice

PCTs and Boards were initially operating without any guidance leading to confusion around which aspects of the practice income were subject to superannuation. Early last year, guidance was introduced on the NHSBSA website for the first time, but it was still confusing.

David Paul, a Chartered Accountant and NASDAL member led the campaign to improve the pension guidance, working closely with NHSBSA to develop a document which is clear to both dentists and health authorities.

In relation to the pension entitlement of a training practice, David said that from April of this year onwards:

- The training grant is 100 per cent pensionable
- The vocational trainee salary is also pensionable but is not to be included on the ARR
- Service costs are not pensionable and must not be included on the ARR.

David said he has worked with four training practices within different health authority areas during 2011-2012. Two of the practices had been successful in having their service costs superannuated while the other two were refused. He said: “This inconsistent treatment is indicative of a lack of understanding. The new guidance now sheds welcome light on superannuation treatment for training practices.”

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The Dental Defence Union (DDU) has produced an online learning module to help dental professionals get to grips with the ethical dilemmas they face in their day-to-day practice, while earning CPD points.

The DDU online CPD module on dental ethics and law aims to help members understand the main principles of topics such as confidentiality, consent and capacity. After reading background information including key principles and guidance written by the DDU’s dento-legal experts and working through a number of case studies, members of the dental team can then test their knowledge by answering multiple choice questions. On successful completion of the assessment, dental professionals gain five hours’ worth of CPD and a personalised certificate.

Leo Briggs, DDU dento-legal adviser, said: “Dental ethics are not always black and white, and dilemmas present in many ways. There may be no easy answers to ethical problems in dentistry and no training can hope to cater for every eventual-ity in practice. But there are questions which dental professionals need to ask themselves, their patients and their colleagues, in order to determine the most appropriate course of action. “Our interactive guide to ethics is aimed at helping members of the dental team to understand the principles of dental ethics and law and apply that knowledge to a variety of scenarios that typically arise in day-to-day practice.”

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Course gives confidence to place implants

Implant course The Basic Implant Surgery and Prosthetic Modular Implant Programme returns this April. Now in its fifth year, the course is presented by Specialist Oral Surgeons, Dr Sanjay Chopra and Dr Philip Hayter, at their referral centre in Hornchurch, Essex.

The course provides an introduction to dental implant treatment, from identifying suitable cases to immediate placement and loading. The content is delivered using a combination of live surgery, lectures and hands-on training.

Sanjay Chopra and Philip Hayter are Examiners in Implant Dentistry for the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) in England and Edinburgh. They also lecture on the Diploma and Advanced Certificate Course in Implant Dentistry from the RCS.

The course runs for eight days over seven months, commencing 16 April 2013, and costs £4,500 + VAT. To book, and for further information, contact David Gurney on 01708 707050 or email david@highlandview.co.uk.