

## JUMP FOR CASH

Three staff at The Chipping Manor Dental Practice in Wotton Under Edge recently did a charity skydive to raise money for Bridge2Aid for their work in Tanzania. Dentist Dave Stephens and dental nurses Ali Wilks and Hannah Wakefield undertook the jump.

The charity provides much needed dental care for patients who may have never seen a dentist and over the five years it has supported the charity, the practice has raised over £60,000. Several members of staff have been to Tanzania as volunteers to train clinical officers in the safe extraction of teeth, working in very basic conditions.

## DENTAL NURSES GAIN FLUORIDE VARNISH CERTIFICATES

The first dental nurses in the South West of England have gained their certificate of competency in the application of topical fluoride varnish via blended learning.

Alasdair Miller, Dental Postgraduate Dean, presented certificates to Tracy Andrews, Lindsey Bright and Claire Gillbard.

They completed a blended learning programme to achieve competency in the application of topical fluoride varnish as permitted by the General Dental Council's recent 'Scope of Practice' document.

The programme involved the use of distance learning workbooks which tested and updated the students' underpinning theoretical knowledge. There were also practical sessions in the Simulated Dental Learning Environment of the Peninsula Dental School in Plymouth followed up with successful completion of a patient logbook with the application of topical fluoride varnish carried out on ten patients under the close supervision of a dentist.

## NEW CHAIR APPOINTED

Joanne Tyree has been appointed as the new chair of the National Oral Health Promotion Group (NOHPG). The NOHPG is a forum for professionals interested in the promotion of oral health and the group was established in 1981. The aim of the group is to encourage the continual development of Oral Health Promotion and to provide support to its members who are actively working in the field of Oral Health Education and Oral Health Improvement.

For more information about the group visit [www.nohpg.org](http://www.nohpg.org).

## NATIONAL AWARD FOR ORAL HEALTH TEAM

A project to improve secondary school pupils' oral health has led to NHS Lanarkshire scooping the Patron's Prize at the National Oral Health Promotion Group's (NOHPG) annual conference, held in Manchester.

The health board's oral health team, working with local schools, developed a new DVD and teaching materials called 'Smile with Confidence'.

Celia Watt, senior health promotion officer (oral health), said, 'We identified gaps in oral health knowledge and designed a resource that meets the needs of the pupils.'

*Vital* editor Kate Maynard (left) discussing Vital CPD with two curious delegates on the *Vital* stand at the BSDHT Conference in Bournemouth, October 2009.



## WINTER DIARY

**Nobel Biocare: Starting with Implants (Basic)**

Date: 4 December 2009, Edinburgh  
 Tel: Tanya Wade 01895 452912 or Kyle Anderson 01895 452938  
 Website: [www.nobelbiocare.com](http://www.nobelbiocare.com)

**British Association of Dental Therapists**

Date: 11 December 2009  
 Venue: Eastman Dental Hospital  
 Website: [www.badt.org.uk](http://www.badt.org.uk)

**Ivoclar Vivadent Professional Care programme for dental hygienists and therapists**

Date: Throughout 2009  
 Tel: 0116 284 7881

**FGDP(UK) Infection Control Workshop (Leeds)**

Date: 29 January 2010  
 Venue: Leeds  
 Website: <http://www.fgdp.org.uk/>

**3rd Annual Conference of Prison Dentistry**

Date: 5 February 2010  
 Venue: Botanical Gardens, Birmingham  
 Website: [www.napd.uk.org](http://www.napd.uk.org)

**BDPMA Management Development Seminars 2010: Information Technology**

Dates: 12 February – Taunton, 26 February – York, 2 March – Manchester, 26 March – Hinckley, 23 April – London  
 Website: [www.bdpma.org.uk](http://www.bdpma.org.uk)

**FGDP(UK) and the NEBDN**

Study Day and Award Event  
 Date: 27 February 2010  
 Venue: The Royal College of Surgeons of England  
 Contact: Sandra Tavares  
 Email: [fgdp-education@rcseng.ac.uk](mailto:fgdp-education@rcseng.ac.uk)  
 Tel: 020 7869 6772

**BADT North West Region Study Day**

Date: 6 March 2010  
 Email: [JillHowellbadt@live.co.uk](mailto:JillHowellbadt@live.co.uk)

**The Dentistry Show**

12 hours' CPD available  
 Date: 19-20 March 2010  
 Venue: The NEC, Birmingham  
 Tel: 01926 485 151  
 Website: [www.thedentistryshow.co.uk](http://www.thedentistryshow.co.uk)

**The British Society for the Study of Prosthetic Dentistry Conference 2010: Managing Failing Implants**

Date: 27-29 March 2010  
 Venue: Stirling Management Centre, Stirling  
 Website: [www.bsspd.org](http://www.bsspd.org)

**Royal College of Surgeons of England Infection Control for the Whole Dental Team**

Dates in 2010  
 London, Edinburgh and Leeds  
 Website: [www.fgdp.org.uk](http://www.fgdp.org.uk)

## HOTSPOT



**Name:** Louise Wilson

**Age:** 39

**Town:** Fakenham

**Loves:** Sunny days

**Hates:** Selfish people

**Hobbies:** Fun activities with the family

**Job?** Practice manager/OHE

**How did you get your job?** Through researching a list to see if there were any vacancies.

**How did you end up working in dentistry?**

I went for a interview, 20 years ago. Part of it was to mix glass ionomer ... it must have been a good mix as I got the job.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?**

Every day is different; running a practice and working with people is very challenging - but it is what you make it.

**What is the most challenging part of your job?** Running everything efficiently.

**Would you recommend a career in dentistry?** Certainly, I love it.

**When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**  
 A forest ranger????

**What three things could you not live without?** My family, my career and chocolate - in moderation of course.