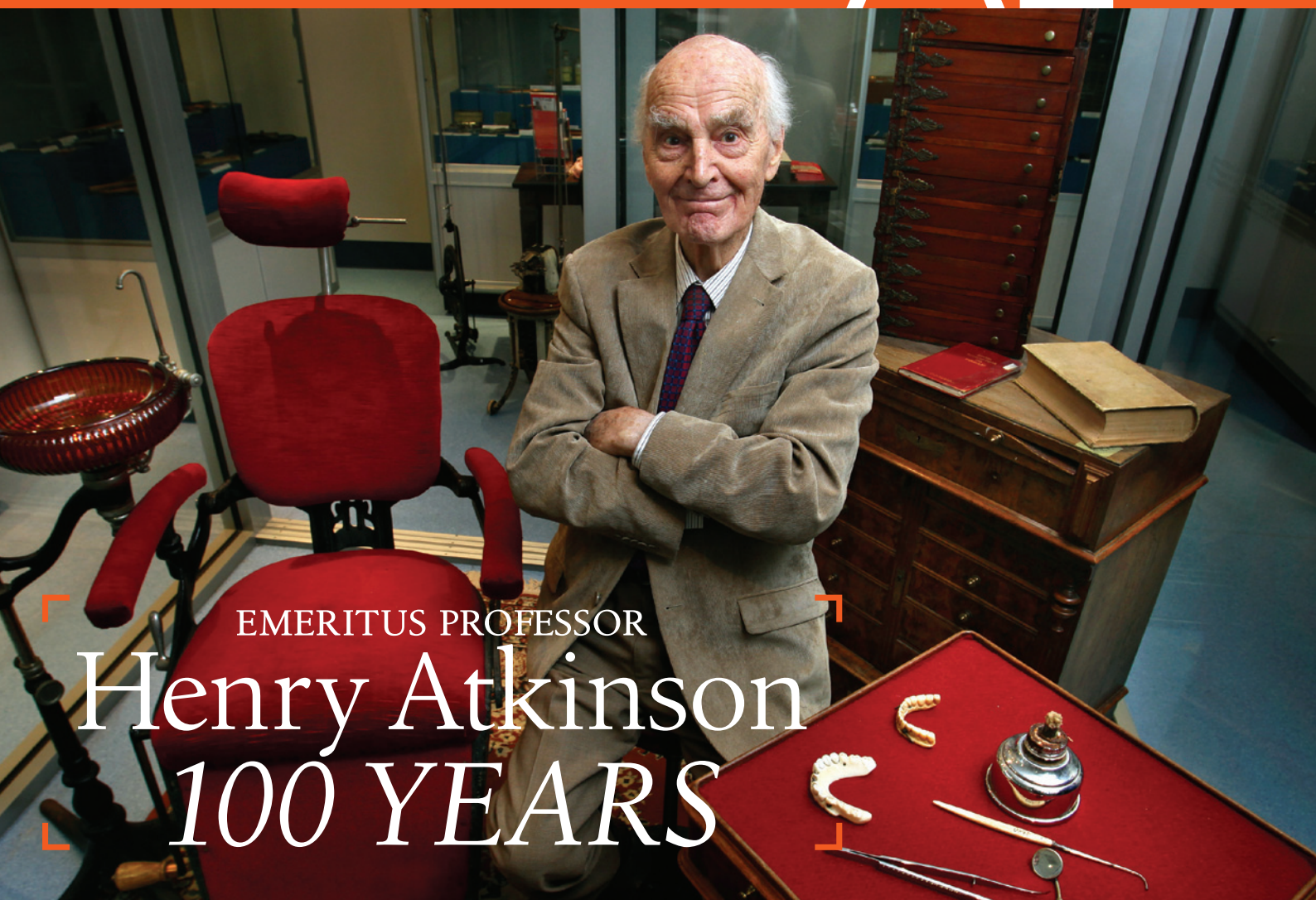


# DENTAL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



EMERITUS PROFESSOR

## Henry Atkinson 100 YEARS

**F**OR SOME PEOPLE RETIREMENT IS NOT AN OPTION THEY EVER REALLY CONSIDER. ALTHOUGH RETIRING 'OFFICIALLY' IN 1978, PROFESSOR HENRY ATKINSON HAS CONTINUED A CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE MELBOURNE DENTAL SCHOOL AND THE ROYAL DENTAL HOSPITAL OF MELBOURNE IN THE RESPECTIVE ROLES OF HONORARY CURATOR OF THE DENTAL MUSEUM AND HONORARY HISTORIAN FOR THE ROYAL DENTAL HOSPITAL OF MELBOURNE. IN AUGUST PROFESSOR ATKINSON REACHED A WONDERFUL MILESTONE BY CELEBRATING HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY.

Before arriving in Australia, Professor Atkinson held positions at the University of Manchester in teaching and research, as well as various hospital appointments; he also served as a maxillofacial surgeon with the British Army during WWII in England, North Africa and Italy where he was awarded an MBE. Originally from Lancashire, he arrived in Australia in 1953 ...Continued page 5





IN 2013 THE MELBOURNE DENTAL SCHOOL will implement the third year of its new four-year, graduate-entry Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) program. The student feedback for the first

## : From the Head :

and second years of the DDS continues to be positive with some subjects receiving very high scores indicating high student satisfaction.

The new facilities of the Melbourne Oral Health Training and Education Centre (MOHTEC) at 723 Swanston Street are now fully operational and this includes the Preclinical Simulation Laboratory, the Haptic Virtual Reality Simulation Laboratory and the Melbourne Dental Clinic (MDC). The opening of these facilities represents the start of an exciting new era of dental education at the Melbourne Dental School. The new Haptic Virtual Reality Simulation Laboratory houses 20 state-of-the-art Moog Simodont dental simulators supported by funds from Health Workforce Australia and the Rowden White Trust. The Simodonts provide a virtual 3D environment, with students able to practice manual dexterity, drilling shapes in virtual plastic blocks. Once they have mastered these basic drilling skills, they can then use a virtual mirror to practice indirect vision. The dental handpiece has high fidelity haptics to simulate the force feedback when cutting the virtual block or tooth. The Simodont has a library of teeth, developed from cone-beam CT images of real teeth. They simulate the anatomy and pathology of real teeth. At present, classes have just commenced, with first and second year Doctor of Dental Surgery students using the Simodonts. It is expected that along with the manual dexterity and restorative classes, that the Simodonts will be updated to include

*The opening of these facilities represents the start of an exciting new era of dental education at the Melbourne Dental School.*

Crown and Bridge and Periodontics modules later in the year.

Final year dental students commenced treating patients in the new world-class Melbourne Dental Clinic on the 15th of January this year. For the first time, dentistry and oral health students are treating patients in a private clinic, helping them to understand the requirements of working in the private sector. Melbourne Dental Clinic is a new 51 chair clinic operated by MDC Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary company of The University of Melbourne. The clinic has dental chairs dedicated to general practice for dentistry and oral health students and also chairs for specialists-in-training Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DCD) students.

The new facilities of MOHTEC also include a state-of-the-art Continuing Professional Development suite with dedicated seminar rooms with 3D imaging technology and streaming facilities from the MDC dental surgeries and preclinical simulation laboratory. This new CPD facility will be used to expand the School's CPD programs together with its partner organisation the ADAVB.

MOHTEC will be formally launched in 2013 by the University of Melbourne's Vice Chancellor together with Federal and State Ministers and invited guests.

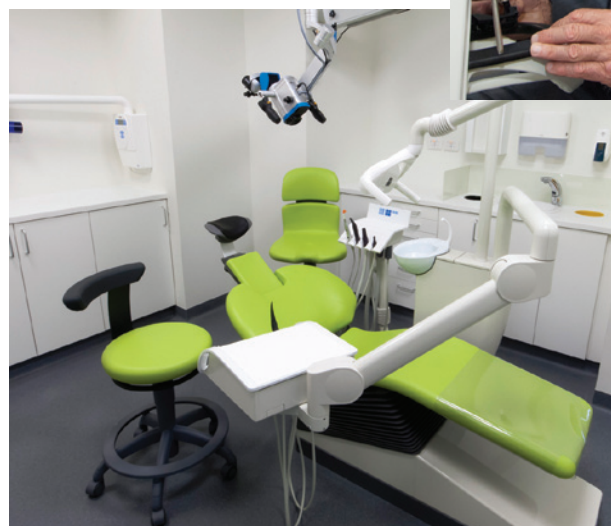
The School received 583 applications with a preference for the Doctor of Dental Surgery in 2013 including 154 international applications. We have started the academic year with close to 90 first year DDS students all very keen to use the brand new facilities in MOHTEC.

Applications for the Bachelor of Oral Health in 2013 again increased with 819 domestic school leavers and 50 international applicants who applied through VTAC. As of the end of January the school is expecting 30 students to enrol into the Bachelor of Oral Health with a minimum ATAR in the nineties.

The Melbourne Dental School provides specialist education in Orthodontics, Periodontics,



PICTURED: The new facilities of the Melbourne Oral Health Training and Education Centre (MOHTEC) at 723 Swanston Street are now fully operational. RIGHT: With Professor James Angus using the Moog Simodont



Prosthodontics, Endodontics, Paediatric Dentistry, Oral Medicine and Special Needs Dentistry. We received 130 applications for the DCD and Postgraduate Clinical Dentistry courses: 77 local (including 6 from NZ) and 53 international from 18 countries (Malaysia, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Spain, India, Qatar, Kuwait, Pakistan, Chile, Tuvalu, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Vietnam, South Africa, Egypt, Philippines, Fiji). We are anticipating 22 new DCD students will start with us in 2013. The 22 comprise 4 international (2 Malaysia, 1 India, 1 Spain) and 18 local including 2 Qld, 1 Syd, 1 WA, 1 NZ.

Australian universities were again assessed in 2012 as they were in 2010 under the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative. The Melbourne Dental School again received a rating of 5 (well above world standard) as it did in 2010. The Melbourne Dental School is the only dental school in Australia to receive a 5 rating in both the 2010 and 2012 assessments. Congratulations and thank you to all School staff and students who have contributed to the research output of the Melbourne Dental School. It is your dedication and outstanding performance that has resulted in this unprecedented achievement.

I am delighted to welcome new staff to the Melbourne Dental School; Dr Jaafar Abdou, Senior Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry; Associate Professor Nicola Cirillo, Associate Professor Dental Medicine, Pathology and Pharmacology; Dr Orit Oettinger-Barak, Senior Lecturer in Periodontics and Associate Professor Glen Scholz, Principal Research Fellow (Inflammation).

Congratulations to current staff on their promotions in 2012; Professor Ivan Darby, Associate Professor Mina Borromeo, Dr Rebecca Wong, Dr Peiyan Shen and Dr Michelle Glew.

Thank you to two long serving staff members who have provided substantial service to the School in many ways and are retiring in early 2013. Peter Riley who has been laboratory manager for the Oral Biology research group for 33 years and Ronn Taylor initially as technical laboratory manager and then also as Clinical

Teaching Specialist (Prosthodontics) for 19 years. Ronn and Peter have provided exceptional service and both have added to the culture of the dental school and will be missed. We wish them well in their retirement and hope that they will stay in contact with the School.

Finally, thanks to Emeritus Professors Harold and Louise Messer for their outstanding contributions to the Melbourne Dental School as they are relocating to the UK on the 1st March 2013 for an extended period for family reasons. Both Harold and Louise will continue as Emeritus Professors of the Melbourne Dental School and will continue their association with the School including inter alia their collaborations with staff and supervision of postgraduate students.

Harold and Louise have provided outstanding leadership for the School and Profession over a long period of time. There is no doubt that their association with the Melbourne Dental School is a major factor in why the School is so highly regarded around the world. Their achievements are substantial and very impressive and we are so fortunate that they decided to spend this time

with us; in fact they have been an essential part of the Melbourne Dental School family for so long the School will just not be the same without them. However, as Louise reminded me their relocation to the UK is not goodbye but au revoir as they will remain actively engaged with the Melbourne Dental School. **D**

PROFESSOR ERIC REYNOLDS  
AO FICD FTSE FRACDS (Melbourne Laureate  
Professor, Head of School and CEO, Oral Health CRC)  
Melbourne Dental School

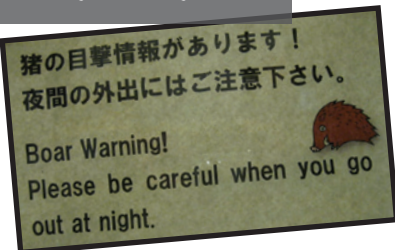


# VISIT TO SPring-8 synchrotron

by David Thomas



ABOVE: SPing-8 in the Forest  
BELOW: Wild Pig Warning!



**IN MAY 2012 TWO MEMBERS OF STAFF FROM THE MELBOURNE DENTAL SCHOOL VISITED**

**JAPAN AS PART OF A TEAM COLLECTING DATA AT THE SPRING-8 SYNCHROTRON IN HYOGO PREFECTURE, JAPAN.**

The project is a long-term collaboration between the Melbourne Dental School (MDS) and Tsurumi University School of Dental Medicine (TUSDM). The study of age-related changes in dentine

*A major advantage of the micro-CT method is that you can “cut” multiple virtual sections through a tooth and still have the intact tooth and the next image shows a longitudinal section through the same data.*

structure and mineralisation was initiated by Professors Kenzo Kawasaki (former Head of the Department of Anatomy at TUSDM) and John Clement (Head of Oral Anatomy, Medicine and Surgery, MDS) a decade ago. Professor Shinji Shimoda has taken over as Head of the Department at TUSDM and he and his staff have continued to collect teeth and to experiment with measurement methods but until the advent of synchrotron-radiation micro-CT the available technology had proved inadequate for the task. The other MDS staff member, Research Officer Mr David Thomas, is an experienced synchrotron user and has run several successful experiments for hard tissue imaging at synchrotrons in Japan and the United States.

In the current series of experiments 50 teeth were imaged at high resolution using the facilities at beamline 20B2 at SPing-8 and around 2TB of data returned to TUSDM and the MDS where it will be analysed over the next few months.

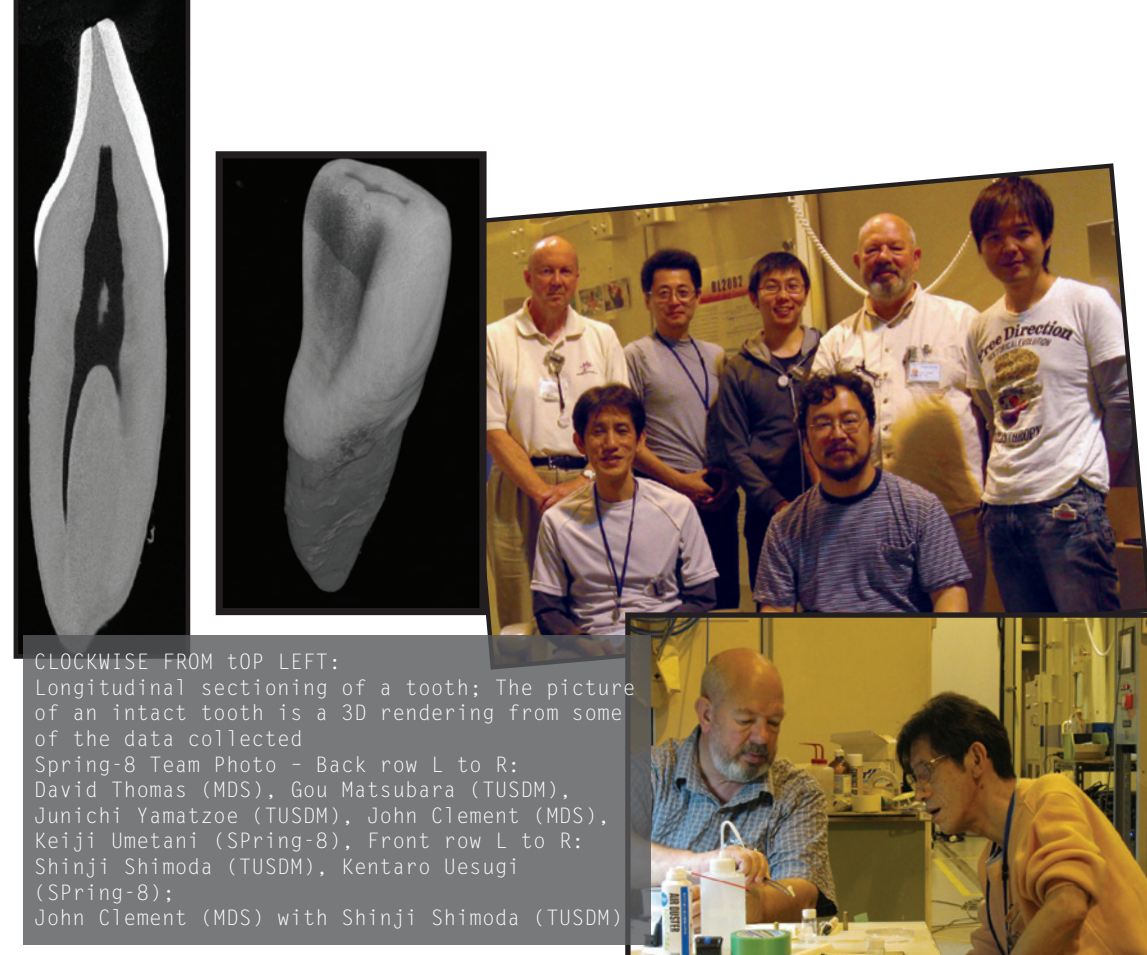
Travel to SPing-8 from Tokyo involves a three and a half hour journey on the Tokaido Line Shinkansen (bullet train) followed by 45 minutes in a local service bus and brings home the huge contrasts between urban and

rural life in Japan. The Shinkansen are famous for their speed and advanced technology but after ten minutes on the bus you are travelling up a narrow valley with tiny villages of traditional

Japanese houses surrounded by rice paddies and with religious shrines visible everywhere. SPing-8 is located in Harima Science Garden City which is a post-war development on a densely forested mountain site where the landscape is typical of much of inland Japan. Spring-8 users are used to having to avoid the wild deer that graze around the buildings in the early morning but the “boar warning” is unusual! The team did not have to evade any wild pigs but they did notice that there was a lot of pork on the menu in the canteen.

The picture of an intact tooth is a 3D rendering from some of the data collected. A major advantage of the micro-CT method is that you can “cut” multiple virtual sections through a tooth and still have the intact tooth and the next image shows a longitudinal section through the same data. Future work on the tooth scans will focus on measuring and describing the distribution of secondary dentine formation and other age-related changes in mineral density.

Travel and subsistence for John Clement and David Thomas to and in Japan were provided by the International Synchrotron Access Program, an Australian Federal Government program that makes it possible for local researchers to use synchrotrons all around the world. John and David are also very grateful for the on-going support provided by their colleagues at SPing-8, particularly Kentaro Uesugi, the beamline scientist in charge of BL20B2. **D**



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Longitudinal sectioning of a tooth; The picture of an intact tooth is a 3D rendering from some of the data collected  
Spring-8 Team Photo - Back row L to R: David Thomas (MDS), Gou Matsubara (TUSDM), Junichi Yamatzoe (TUSDM), John Clement (MDS), Keiji Umetani (SPing-8), Front row L to R: Shinji Shimoda (TUSDM), Kentaro Uesugi (SPing-8); John Clement (MDS) with Shinji Shimoda (TUSDM)

## EMERITUS PROFESSOR Henry Atkinson 100 YEARS

...Continued from front page



to take up the Chair in Dental Prosthetics at the University of Melbourne. He worked in the Department of Biochemistry and the

Department of Physiology, was appointed lecturer in Histology and Embryology, was a member of the Dental Faculty, College Council, Dental Hospital Committee of Management, Professorial Board, the University Research Committee, was Dean and Acting Dean of the Faculty.

While teaching at the Australian College of Dentistry he developed an enduring interest in the School's museum which he discovered dated back to the earliest dental society in Victoria. Upon his retirement Professor Atkinson as Professor Emeritus and Honorary Curator, began cataloguing the collection and researching

and writing about the history of dentistry in Australia. For over thirty years now Professor Atkinson has continued a close association with the museum, coming in each week to the Melbourne Dental School giving consistently and generously of his time to support all areas of the museum's activities. His knowledge of the history of dentistry has brought him radio and television exposure where he presents as an easy yet authoritative historian who has a passion for explaining how dentistry has evolved within Australian health and society.

In 2006 the then School of Dental Science officially recognised the contribution made by Professor Atkinson, naming the Dental Museum of The University of Melbourne the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum. 'Atki', as he is affectionately known by the dental fraternity, has been a great mentor to generations of graduates. His recollection of the antics by many of them has ensured that he will continue to hold a special place in the hearts and minds of all. Outside of his involvements with the dental museum Henry is an indefatigable gardener managing a large and productive garden, a model train enthusiast, and a prolific writer contributing to both local and international publication on a broad range of topics. **D**



## Melbourne Dental School: Staff Appts. & Promotions

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS



**A/Prof Mina Borromeo** – Associate Professor and Convener in Special Needs Dentistry



**Mr Ronn Taylor** – Clinical Teaching Specialist (Prosthodontics).

**A/Prof Glen Scholz** – Principal Research Fellow (Inflammation)

**Dr Rebecca Wong** – Senior Lecturer in General Practice Dentistry

**Dr Jaafar Abdou** – Senior Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry



**Dr Orit Oettinger-Barak** – Senior Lecturer in Periodontics



**A/Prof Nicola Cirillo** – Associate Professor Dental Medicine, Pathology and Pharmacology

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS



**Dr Parul Marwaha** – Project Coordinator (Teledentistry Project)

### ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS

**Dr Michelle Glew** – promoted to Research Fellow Grade 2 (Level B)

**A/Prof Ivan Darby** – promoted to Professor

**Dr Peiyan Shen** – promoted to Senior Research Fellow.



ABOVE LEFT: L to R: Michael Catchpole (CEO Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy), Dr Nathan Cochrane, Dr Gordon Burt (President of the Australian Dental Association Victorian Branch)  
TOP RIGHT: Nathan with Dr Livia Tenuta, President of the IADR Cariology Research Group  
ABOVE RIGHT: Geoff Adams (R) with presenter, the Editor of the Journal of Dental Research, Dr William Giannobile

## Awards

THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENT OF THE 2012 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD WAS DR NATHAN COCHRANE. This award by Professions Australia is intended to recognise the achievements of a young professional who has demonstrated a noteworthy commitment to excellence and innovation in his/her profession and worked to promote the profession as a whole. Nathan was recognised for his contributions to research and innovation in the field of oral health and his service to the dental profession particularly in oral health promotion and continuing professional development. The award was presented at the Australian Dental Association Victorian Branch Convention in August 2012.

DR COCHRANE ALSO RECEIVED THE BASIL GLOVER BIBBY AWARD for Excellence in Cariology Research which was awarded at the recent International Association for Dental Research General Session in Iguassa Falls, Brazil. The Cariology Group of IADR has established the Award for the purpose of promoting the interest of young scientists and students in dental caries research and related matters and to acknowledge excellence of the research conducted by investigators under the age of 40. This International Award is in honour of the founding President of the Cariology Group, Dr Basil G. Bibby.



MR GEOFF ADAMS received one of two Journal of Dental Research Reviewer Appreciation for Exemplary Service awards at the JDR reception at the IADR Conference in Iguassa Falls, Brazil. This award recognized the significant number of manuscripts that Geoff reviewed for the journal along with their high quality. He has since been appointed to the editorial board for this internationally recognized journal

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JULIE SATUR, Coordinator of the Bachelor of Oral Health programme and Senior Researcher with the Oral Health CRC, was recently awarded one of the three Dental Health Services Victoria (DHSV) Public Oral Healthcare Awards for her care and commitment to public dental services. The annual awards, presented by Dental Health Services Victoria (DHSV), are given to dental professionals who go above and beyond their duty in providing dental care to disadvantaged Victorians.

DHSV CEO, Dr Deborah Cole, said the awards pay tribute to the often unacknowledged work being done by public dental professionals. "The judging panel were overwhelmed by the calibre of the nominees who included dental assistants, specialist dentists, oral health therapists, clinic managers and academics. All of them have dedicated their careers to

improving people's oral health," said Dr Cole.

The winners received funding of \$5,000 for their professional development and a trophy designed by Philip Stokes Gallery.

Julie graduated as a dental therapist in 1977 and spent the early part of her career working for the Victorian School Dental Service. She moved into a project manager role in 1992 and began designing, implementing and evaluating oral health promotion programs for

preschool children. Julie has been involved in curriculum development and teaching in dental therapy and dental hygiene for the Bachelor of Oral Health since 1993, ensuring high quality graduates enter the dental workforce. She is a strong advocate for increased recognition of the skills of oral health therapists and dental therapists. Julie was a founding member of the Victorian Dental and Oral Health Therapists Association in 1977 and has held the positions of President, Policy Advisor and currently is the Editor of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Dental and Oral Health Therapy. Julie is an active advocate for public oral health at state and national levels.

## Colloquium on Indigenous Oral Health

The Melbourne Dental School recently held a Colloquium on Indigenous Oral Health comprising an afternoon of discussion of the issues surrounding Indigenous oral health in the context of the University's commitment to a Reconciliation Action Plan. The Reconciliation Action Plan is an opportunity for the University as a whole to reflect upon our contribution to Indigenous development in Australia and take positive steps to address the disadvantage faced by Indigenous Australians in health, employment and education. The Reconciliation Action Plan is being implemented at the Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences Faculty level and includes initiatives in curriculum renewal, student recruitment and retention, staff employment, research and community engagement.

Presenters included Melbourne Laureate Professor Eric Reynolds, AO, Professor James Angus, AO, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences,

Minister Chris Bourke, Minister of the Legislative Assembly for the ACT and Dr Shaun Ewen, Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences Indigenous Development, Director, Onemda and Deputy Director, Centre for Health and Society.

The Melbourne Dental School is committed to supporting the Reconciliation Action Plan to ensure that we are able to meet the accreditation requirements of the Australian Dental Council in relation to Indigenous oral health.

For further information on the University of Melbourne Reconciliation Plan, you can go to the following link: <http://www.murruupbarak.unimelb.edu.au/files/miip/2011%20RAP%20with%20RA%20logo.pdf>



LEFT: The Hon. Chris Bourke  
BELOW: L to R: Professor James Angus, Professor Eric Reynolds, The Hon. Chris Bourke, Dr Shaun Ewen, Professor Michael McCullough



## Melbourne Dental Clinic Update

FINAL YEAR DENTAL STUDENTS commenced treating patients in the new Melbourne Dental Clinic on the 15th of January this year. For the first time, dentistry and oral health students will be treating patients in a private clinic, helping them to understand the requirements of working in the private sector. Melbourne Dental Clinic is a new 51 chair dental clinic owned and operated by The University of Melbourne, with 10 chairs dedicated to general practice for dentistry and oral health students, with the remaining chairs for specialist Doctor of Clinical Dentistry students.

HAPTIC VIRTUAL REALITY LAB An exciting new era in dental education commenced this year, with the opening of the School's new haptic virtual reality simulation laboratory. The School has just installed 20 state-of-the-art Moog Simodont dental simulators, with funding from Health Workforce Australia and the Rowden White Trust. The Simodonts provide a virtual 3D environment, with students able to practice manual dexterity drilling shapes in virtual plastic blocks. Once they have mastered these basic drilling skills, they can then use a virtual mirror to practice indirect vision. The dental handpiece has high fidelity haptics to simulate the force feedback when cutting the virtual block or tooth. The Simodont has a library of teeth, developed from cone-beam CT images of real teeth. They simulate the anatomy and pathology of real teeth. At present, classes have just commenced, with first and second year

Doctor of Dental Surgery students using the Simodonts. It is expected that along with the manual dexterity and restorative classes, that the Simodonts will be updated to include Crown and Bridge and Periodontics modules later in the year.





L to R: Ms Usha Vallabh, Dr Siew-May Loo, Ms Annette Bird and Dr Anu Polster

## Open Day 2012

Another successful Open Day was held in August 2012 with Melbourne Dental School staff receiving many enquiries from interested students for the Doctor of Dental Surgery and the Bachelor of Oral Health courses.

## Paediatric Dentistry News

FORMER PAEDIATRIC DENTISTRY POSTGRADUATE STUDENT, DR CALLUM DURWARD, who graduated in 1987 is heading a new initiative in Cambodia, called "Seal Cambodia Project". Our Oral Health CRC partner, GC Corporation, is a major sponsor of this initiative and Professor David Manton is an advisor. This project aims to improve the oral health of Cambodian children.

## News from the Oral Health CRC



PROFESSOR MIKE MORGAN, Colgate Chair of Population Oral Health, Melbourne Dental School and Program Leader at the Oral Health CRC has had a remarkable response to his two recent stories on

oral health in The Conversation e-magazine. His article *Medical Myths: Knocked-out teeth are history* had 2,307 readers while his article "How fluoride in water helps prevent tooth decay" attracted 3,419 readers, 100 comments, 22 tweets and 127 Facebook likes.

The Oral Health Meets e-Health Symposium, held in November, received excellent feedback and was live streamed on the Oral Health CRC website and the Melbourne Dental School website. Sessions can now be viewed at the Oral Health CRC new website at <http://www.oralhealthcrc.org.au>



The Oral Health CRC launched its new website late in 2012. (See below) Visit the new website at [www.oralhealthcrc.org.au](http://www.oralhealthcrc.org.au) to find out more about the Oral Health CRC's exciting research, its latest news and to subscribe to the newsletter. D



PICTURED ABOVE: MOU signing ceremony  
RIGHT: Australian Contingent



## Happier Smiles Through Australia ~ Vietnam Collaboration in Oral Health

COLLABORATION BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN AND VIETNAMESE ORAL HEALTH WORKERS HAS TAKEN AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD FOLLOWING A VISIT TO HANOI BY STAFF FROM MELBOURNE AND LA TROBE UNIVERSITIES, AND FROM THE AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR POPULATION ORAL HEALTH (ARCPH) LINKED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

Several staff from the University of Melbourne and La Trobe University's Dental Schools, as well as from ARCPH, were in Hanoi recently for the 6th Asian Conference of Oral Health Promotion for School Children.

The Australian contingent included Melbourne University's Professor Mike Morgan, Associate Professor Rodrigo Mariño and Dr John Rogers, the University of Adelaide's Professor Kate Roberts-Thomson and Dr Loc Do, Associate Professor Mark Gussy from La Trobe University's School of Oral Health and Dr Jamie Robertson from the Rotary Vietnam-Australia Health Project.

The Australians supported the conference by shaping the scientific program, providing speakers and helping to promote the event. There was even an artistic contribution from the Australian delegation at the conference dinner.

The Hanoi conference comes as part of an increasingly close relationship between oral health professionals in the two countries. After the conference, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed to officially launch the Vietnam-Australia Oral Health Collaboration (VAOHC). The key objective of the VAOHC is to advance cooperation between Vietnam and Australia in the areas of oral health promotion, education, research and treatment.

Dr Jamie Robertson, who has been visiting Vietnam for 20 years and manages the Rotary Vietnam-Australia Health Project, said: "the intent is to continue to promote a harmonious working relationship between the people of Vietnam and Australia for the improvement of oral health."

The VAOHC brings together interested health agencies and individuals in each country to work on a range of activities developed by mutual agreement. While commercial entities are not members, they will be encouraged to form partnerships with members for specific programs.

Future plans for the VAOHC include lecture programs by Australian specialists visiting Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, dental public health courses, study tours to Australia by staff from the national Hospitals of Odonto-Stomatology, Vietnam, and student exchanges between both countries.

These activities will build on the strong basis of collaboration between the oral health professions in each country. Existing programs and opportunities for further collaboration were discussed at the Vietnam-Australian Oral Health Collaborative Initiatives Symposium, held in Melbourne in April 2010. Organised by the Oral Health CRC, the symposium brought together senior dental public health experts from Vietnam and Australia with an interest in oral health projects in Vietnam. At the symposium, successful projects were presented and future opportunities discussed.

Projects aimed at bringing together oral health workers from Australia and Vietnam have been operating since the 1990s. Professor Kaye Roberts-Thomson and Dr Loc Do supported the National Oral Health Survey conducted in 1999. Dr Robertson first organised an Australian dental worker visit to Vietnam in 1992. Since that time, more than 150 Australian oral health professionals have supported the dental public health system in Vietnam in various ways, including by working in rural clinics and in the National Hospital for Odonto-Stomatology in Ho Chi Minh City. D

Dr John Rogers, Honorary Fellow,  
The University of Melbourne



# FROM THE DENTAL MUSEUM

## The History & Philosophy of Early Dentistry Part II

H.F. Atkinson

IT IS NOT KNOWN WHAT WAS THE FIRST DENTAL INSTRUMENT to be supplied by electricity but it is likely to have been one in which the heating effect of the current was used. Cauteries, in the form of heated metal rods have been used since the time of the Egyptians for the control of bleeding and to aid healing; from the middle ages they were used in dentistry for similar purposes. The early dental instruments consisted of a metal shaft with an olive sized and shaped piece of metal on the end that could be made red hot in a brazier. It was an awe inspiring instrument that must have required the dental patient, as in general surgery, to be restrained when used.

The electric cautery with its small loop of platinum wire that could be made red hot at the point of application, was in a different class of treatment. The cautery now had the precision of the scalpel and in the treatment of gum diseases had the added advantage that there was no bleeding. Over the years the popularity of the cautery waxed and waned but until relatively recently, manufacturers always included one in the instruments supplied with a dental unit. (See fig 1.)

The many times that hot air was required during even the simplest of restorative procedures, for drying a cavity or hardening a layer of varnish, made its use an intrusive and time consuming process. An ever burning spirit lamp together with an air syringe with rubber bulb, and a spout also terminating in a large metal olive, were required. After an often too brief period in the flame the metal end was expected to retain sufficient heat to warm the air passing through, a result achieved only with great heat and an operator with a steady hand. Eventually with the introduction of electricity, the new instruments saw the metal end replaced with a glass tip in

which a tightly coiled wire could be heated to warm the air. With the tip thermally insulated, it could be used anywhere in the mouth without fear of injuring the patient. Once mains power became available and a surgery air compressor installed, a forward leap in treatment occurred as both cold and hot air became immediately available at the touch of a button. (See fig 2)

Naturally, once mains power became available, many other appliances using the heating effect of an electric current were introduced; electric kettles and urns for a local hot water supply, and later when the importance of heat sterilisation was realised, electric boiling water sterilisers. By modern standards these were crude and inefficient appliances. They had large porcelain switches and insulators, and externally attached heating elements; nevertheless these were a vast improvement on what was previously available.

There was no limit to the extent that manufacturers were pushing the use of electricity in the dental surgery; dental supply houses were having a field day, even offering electrically heated upholstered foot warmers for both patient and dentist!

There was one application of the heating effect of a current of electricity above all others that had the most profound influence on the practice of dentistry and that was the electric muffle furnace which displaced the solid fuel fired furnace. Porcelain work was all inclusive covering the staining and glazing of commercially available teeth, the making of crowns and bridges and "continuous gum" (the fabrication of a whole denture). In the late 1800s in both industry and in dental practice, a solid fuel fired furnace provided the necessary steady and controlled source of heat. During the years of development of the electric muffle, alternate sources of heat to the solid fuel fire were being offered to dentists. In cities with a town gas supply, small gas fired furnaces were available, however to reach the high temperatures necessary, these required air blast. For country dentists, liquid benzene air blast equipment was available. The air blast in all cases was supplied

by foot-bellows with at least thirty minutes of 'pumping' required for even the simplest of procedures. The obvious disadvantage of the use of such equipment was the lack of heat control caused by fatigue of the operator.

Ultimately it was the knowledge, skill and experience of the early dentists in their porcelain work that led to the development of the platinum wire wound muffle furnaces complete with associated controls and pyrometer. To appreciate the problems faced by the dentist in the 1890s it is necessary to visit the workroom of a successful practitioner of that period. Built of fireclay blocks held together with steel bands on a base of some 40 cm square, the furnace stood 70 to 80cm tall. From an opening in the top which was fitted with a controlling damper, a flue extended to the outside of the building. On the front of the furnace was a minimum of three openings, one above the other, each with a door or closing plug. At the top was the fuel door, the next below the porcelain muffle and the lowest the ash door and pan. On either side were containers for fuel, wood, coke or anthracite. (See fig 3)

The fire was lit with wood and charcoal added to cover the muffle, this was followed by coke or coal. Slow heating was necessary to avoid cracking of the muffle and any invested pin teeth that were inside. This was obtained by the judicious use of the dampers and ash pan door. The work was heated slowly by placing it at the front of the muffle with the door open and then gradually pushing it into hotter areas. The state of the work was determined by surface texture and colour observed by the eye of an experienced operator.

Alternatively, 'cones' of ceramic material were used, the tips of which collapsed at predetermined temperatures. Slow controlled cooling was as important as the rate of heating, particularly when metal backed porcelain pin teeth were used. Needless to say, like the water bag in summer for a cool drink, the porcelain furnace in winter, for warmth, was equally attractive!

By the end of the 1890s, well designed and made platinum wire wound muffle furnaces were available. The museum holds amongst several excellent examples, one that was used by a Collins Street dentist in the early 1900s. The equipment measures 14 x 30 x 30cm high and consists of a base containing the coarse and fine adjustment rheostats above which is fixed the muffle. Attached vertically on the back of the furnace, is a large open faced millimeter or pyrometer calibrated in degrees Fahrenheit and Centigrade, together with information on fusing temperatures. The pyrometer is a classical moving coil type of instrument, 30cm high and 20cm wide with a clear open scale. A simple mechanical clock (alarm clock) with dual calibration of the dial, time and rate of heating according to the rheostat position selected, completes the instrumentation.

In summary, the dentist interested in porcelain work as it evolved from the solid fuel to the electrical age of treatment had to acquire large amounts of new knowledge on the nature of heat, temperature and electricity. The knowledge acquired from master by pupil was rapidly changing from craft to science leading one to ask whether the subjective

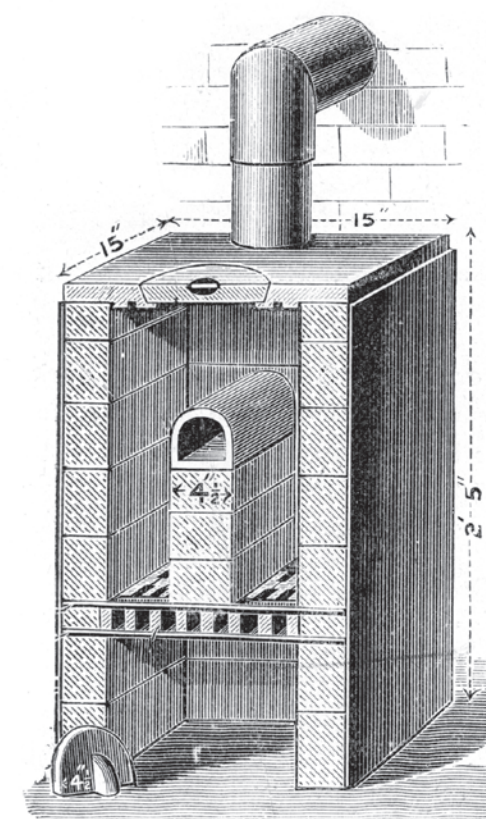


FIG 1. Dental electrical instruments, c.1930. Ritter Dental Manufacturing Company, USA, nickel plated instruments, cardboard, 2.5 x 19.0 x 1.3cm, Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, reg. no 1917



FIG 2. Hot air syringe, c 1930, rubber and metal, 17.5 x 5.5 cm, Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, reg. no 1068

FIG 3. Rose's coke furnace, c.1899, from The Dental Manufacturing Co. Ltd. Catalogue, 1899, London, p.413. Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, reg. no 2221



change in colour of a heated object now measurable in time, temperature and energy, was the critical point influencing the Dental Faculty to change its name from Dental Surgery to Dental Science. This thought is supported by the fact that the new equipment was too expensive and too important for the local dentist to relegate it to the backroom work area, on the contrary it was placed in the surgery for all to see thereby enhancing the status of the owner. **D**



# Australian Dental Art: May Gibbs Author & Illustrator

by Dr Neville Regan

THREE DRAWINGS BY MAY CECILIA GIBBS (1887-1969)<sup>1</sup> are shown in this series of the 'Dentist and the Patient in Art'. The drawings appeared as illustrations in *Little Obelia*, and further adventures of *Ragged Blossom*, *Snugglepot & Cuddleprie*<sup>2</sup> which was the third in Gibbs' major trilogy of children's books. In the whimsical imagery of May Gibbs' anthropomorphic creations, is a curious dental sub-plot.

May Gibbs spent many formative years in Perth, Western Australia. She was influenced and encouraged by her family and professionally trained during her three return voyages to England. Inspired by the local natural history she produced many scientifically accurate and charming drawings. In *Little Obelia* she illustrated many examples of flora and fauna which are endemic to Western Australia.<sup>3</sup>

In 1906 Gibbs visited Broome where she researched the pearling industry. She produced a montage of fantasy illustrations and photographs entitled "Pearling in the Nor West".<sup>4</sup> In creating the book on *Little Obelia* in 1921 she used this industry and its underwater environment to give another dimension to her bush land baby series, this time embracing the sea and its creatures.<sup>5</sup>

Early in the narrative of *Little Obelia*, and further adventures of *Ragged Blossom*, *Snugglepot & Cuddleprie*, Snugglepot, a little Nut with a strange wooden cap on his head<sup>6</sup> tells Mr Lizard that his foster brother Cuddleprie has gone to the dentist. "Ah!" said Mr Lizard, "that's a place I never go to. There ought to be a law against them".<sup>7</sup> Walking to the dentist's feeling miserable, Cuddleprie says out loud "I hate dentists, I'd sooner be deadbones than go there. Suppose I don't go!".<sup>8</sup>

On his way Cuddleprie meets a cast of characters suffering various maladies of the mouth: little Blossom who sobs bitterly "Too-too-too-too-toothache!"; Mrs Bear who groans deeply "Oh, oh, oh, I've got a dreadful face ache"; Mr Possum moaning, "I'm trying to uproot a tooth and it won't let go"; a small grey furry kangaroo

who hits his head with a stick as hard as he can saying, "I like it better than toothache," and finally Mrs Dingo who yowls piteously with toothache pain. Cuddleprie soothes and assures each character so that eventually they all agree that the dear dentist 'is so nice', 'so kind' and 'so gentle', he will surely cure them all.<sup>9</sup>

The first illustration reproduced here is of the kangaroo beating his head with a stick. (fig.1) It is probably based on either a silvery-coated Eastern Grey Kangaroo or it could be a Western Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*). Western Greys are tinged with a dusty brown hue and are endemic to the South West coast of Western Australia. Gibb's drawing with its sparse black pen strokes and economy of line does not enlighten. The illustration is a frontal view of the kangaroo standing upright supported by its tail, with the body and head turned slightly from the effect of the self-flagellation. The stance and form of the kangaroo are not unlike the engraving (after George Stubbs) which appears in the official account of the voyage of Captain James Cook first published in 1773.<sup>10</sup>

When Cuddleprie and his fellow toothache sufferers reach the dentist's, the waiting room is so crowded that most of them have to stay outside. Cuddleprie with a sigh of relief says, "No good me waiting!" and as he went off he happily jumped and sang at getting away: "It's funny, what a long way it is to the dentist, and what a little way it is coming back". This episode whereby Cuddleprie's pain stops and he in turn is elated is comparable to the depiction in George Cruikshank's *The Toothache* when the suffering man rushes to the dentist Pulley Hawley, and just as the servant opens the door, the toothache quite leaves him. The man leaps over a post and cannot sufficiently express his unbounded joy.<sup>11</sup>

In the second illustration *At the Dentist's* (fig 2), May Gibbs has interwoven the tessellated trunk and branches of a eucalyptus tree to form the outline of the dental rooms. The waiting room is on the lower branch and has walls, floor and ceiling made from the leaves stitched together.

From Cuddleprie's toothache party only the crying little Gum Blossom and Mrs Bear holding her jaw are able to sit in the waiting room. Next to the crying Blossom is a wide eyed Nut wearing his walking leaves around his waist with his cap and stick behind him. In the background



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is a very glum Nut wearing his hat and a leaf bandage around his jaw. A Blossom with hat and stick is sitting in the foreground. The table is supported by a small tree branch. Along the trunk to the upper branch is the surgery where a Nut patient whose wooden cap is on the floor, is lying, in advance of the time, horizontally in the chair. The chair is a divided branch of the tree trimmed to form a headrest and armrest. A small gumnut capsule is used as a spittoon.

The dentist is depicted as a bull ant. The character in the drawing has a stylized form not showing the complete key factors, so that identification cannot be specific. However, there is a species of bull ant endemic to the areas of Albany and Perth called *Myrmecia mandibularis* (Smith 1858).<sup>12</sup> Behind the dentist is his working space. Some wooden hammers and probes are slotted along the wall. Nearby is a large gumnut on a vertical tree branch and two smaller gumnuts on a suspended stick, which give the impressionism of a dental engine with a flexible shaft and pulleys for a driving cord.

The nurse, a Gum Blossom, wears a skirt, cap and hair in the style of the stamens from the ovary of the marri



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tree. She is holding a swab and has her own work area, wooden instruments are slotted against the wall and the used items are in a cleaning pot shaped like the woody fruit capsule also of the marri tree.<sup>13</sup>

After Cuddleprie leaves the dentist's he is hypnotized into a strange sleep by the terrible Mrs Black Snake who then proceeds to tie him up and imprison him.<sup>14</sup> His friend Winky Jerboa, with the help of other bush folk, save Cuddleprie. The group then goes to Snugglepot's house where they find a large mug in the middle of the table.<sup>15</sup> The two very bad Banksia men had taken it from a bag, filled it from a bottle, and then tied a note round it and placed it there. The message was "Drink this Cuddleprie; it cures toothache: then come to the waterfall at Little Creek".<sup>16</sup>

In the illustration of the mug, (fig 3), the note is inscribed in May Gibb's scribbly-gum writing on a leaf draped around the mug



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PICTURED L-R:  
Fig 1. May Gibbs, Untitled, c.1921, black pen & ink on paper  
Fig 2. May Gibbs, *At the Dentists*, c.1921, black pen & ink drawing with grey wash & white touches, on paper  
Fig 3. May Gibbs, Untitled, c.1921, black pen & ink on paper

## NOTES

1. May Gibbs was born 17th January 1887, Lower Sydenham, Kent and died 27th November 1969 in Sydney. See Robert Holden & Jane Brummitt, *May Gibbs: More than a fairytale: an artistic life*, Richmond, Victoria: Hardie Grant Books, 2011
2. May Gibbs, *Little Obelia*, and further adventures of *Ragged Blossom*, *Snugglepot & Cuddleprie*, Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1921, pp. 17, 19 & 28
3. Robert Holden & Jane Brummitt 2011, p. x & pp. 27-121
4. See Robert Holden & Jane Brummitt 2011, p. 82 for a reproduction of the original montage published in *The Western Mail Christmas Number*, December 25th, 1907, p. 14
5. Robert Holden & Jane Brummitt, 2011, pp. 84-85
6. The cap of the gum nut (woody capsule) is known as the operculum. (From an interview with Professor Pauline Ladiges, School of Botany, University of Melbourne, 26th October 2012).
7. Gibbs, 1921, p.10
8. Gibbs, 1921, p.16
9. Gibbs, 1921, pp. 16 & 17
10. See reference to Cook's account in Robert Hughes, *The Fatal Shore*, London: Vintage 2003, pp. 5 & 611
11. See George Cruikshank & Horace Mayhew, *The toothache: imagined by Horace Mayhew / and realized by George Cruikshank*, London: Brogue n.d. c.1849, scenes 17, 18, 19.
12. Information derived from an interview with Simon Hinkley Collection Manager (Entomology & Arachnology Collection) Melbourne Museum Discovery Centre, 5 November 2012
13. Ladiges interview 26th Oct 2012
14. Gibbs 1921, p. 22
15. Gibbs 1921, p. 28
16. Gibbs 1921, p. 52
17. Ladiges interview 26th Oct 2012
18. See May Gibbs, *Little Ragged Blossom & more about Snugglepot and Cuddleprie*, Angus Robertson, Sydney, 1920, pp. 16 & 18. Dr Hokus Stikus may have used in his strong medicine: chewed gum, sucked sap, squeezed juices, slug slime, split hairs, ant odour, cockroaches.

**R.**  
**Morphine Sulph.** gr ¼  
**Syr. Pruni Serotina** ʒ i.  
**Aq. Chlorof.** ad ʒ fs.  
**Fiat Haustus. Mitte ʒ ii.**  
**Sig. ʒ fs. in equal quantity of water. Repeat in two hours, only if necessary. Cancel and retain script.**

FIG. 4. Dr R. M. Gillies' formula for pain relief in *The Dental Board of Victoria's, Dental Prescriptions and Formulae*, 1936, p. 54





## Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

During October 2012 the CPD unit ran a full day lecture program "Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Update" at The University of Melbourne, Bio 21 Institute.

The course was designed to introduce the practitioner to new topics in Oral and Maxillofacial surgery. Participants were introduced to cutting edge topics covering dentoalveolar surgery, bisphosphonates, informed consent issues, implantology, bone grafting, paediatric oral and maxillofacial surgery and the emerging fields of cranio-maxillofacial surgery. The day was well received and we would like to thank our panel of highly experienced speakers A/Professor Arun Chandu, Mr Dragan Grubor, Dr Lisa Crighton, Mr Stephen Gibbons, Mr Kevin Spencer, A/Professor Andrew Heggie and Dr Jocelyn Shand. We would also like to thank our kind sponsors DENTSPLY Implants.



## 2013 CPD Program Launch

The Melbourne Dental School is pleased to announce the launch of its 2013 Continuing Professional Development Program. Please visit us on-line at our new e-cart web site located at: <http://ecommerce.dent.unimelb.edu.au>

## 2012 Pre-Convention Workshop – Sculpting Anterior Aesthetics Using Direct Resin Technology

On Thursday 9th August the Melbourne Dental School, Continuing Professional Development Program ran its first hands-on laboratory course at our new state of the art facilities known as the Melbourne Oral Heath Training Education Centre (MOHTEC).

This workshop run in conjunction with the ADAVB Convention was the first program to be run by the CPD Unit at MOHTEC and we were delighted to have International speakers, Dr. Linda Greenwall and Professor Trevor Burke host this program. Dr. Geoff Knight from Melbourne also lent his wealth of experience to the program which received positive feedback from participants and sponsors who were delighted to experience teaching in our new facilities.

The work shop allowed participants to follow Dr Greenwall's step by step guide of composite build-up layering techniques focusing on class

III restorations and closing the midline diastema. We would like to thank Dr. Greenwall, Professor Trevor Burke and Dr. Geoff Knight for bringing their wealth of knowledge and experience to this program.

We would like to give special thanks to our lab staff Sue Dobell, Elly Flitzanis and Mario Smith for all their hard work during the lead up to the workshop and on the day and our own CPD administrator, Sam Vassallo La Rosa.

This workshop was kindly supported by SDI Limited and 3M Espe and we thank them for their assistance and support at this program. **D**



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ABOVE: Dr. Linda Greenwall and Dr. Jacqui Bolton  
RIGHT: Dr. John Boucher



The e-cart site is now available to take enrolments for all our 2013 programs so to avoid missing out on a place visit the e-cart now to enroll! We look forward to seeing you at our CPD programs during 2013.



Air Commodore  
Rowan D Story  
AM, RFD

Director General Air Force Health Reserves - Air Force MDSc(Melb), LDS(Vic), BSc(LaT), LLB(LaT), PGDipPolLaw(LaT), GDLP(ANU) FRACDS, FDSRCPs(Glasg), FACLM

Melbourne Dental School Alumnus Rowan Story has been an Australian Defence Force Reservist since 1979. He was a member of the Army Reserve for 8 years and transferred into the Royal Australian Air Force in 1986. His Reserve service has been in Australia and the United Kingdom. He has made liaison visits to the United States Army Hospital in Landstuhl,

Germany and the German Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine. He has recently been posted as Director General Health Reserves Air Force on promotion to Air Commodore with effect 9 December 2011.

Air Commodore Story is responsible to the Deputy Chief of Air Force for providing advice on the delivery of current and future health Reserve capability to Air Force and is the single service Reserve health advisor to the Surgeon General Australian Defence Force Reserves. The Directorate is also responsible for the strategic management of the Air Force health Reserve capability, including recruiting and sponsorship of specialist Reserve health personnel.

Specialist Reserve health personnel include specialist Medical, Dental and Nursing Officers, Psychologists, Physiotherapists, Radiographers, Environmental Health Officers, Laboratory Officers and others. These Reservists expand on the clinical capabilities of the Permanent Forces, particularly on operational deployments.

### 2ND YEAR DOCTOR OF CLINICAL DENTISTRY (PAEDIATRICS) POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS



Dr Katie Bach

Katie comes to the Melbourne Dental School from Auckland hospital where she

worked for two years. Prior to that Katie worked for a year in the Women's and Children's hospital in Adelaide. Katie graduated from the University of Otago in 2008. She is particularly interested the oral health of children in developing countries and hopes to complete her thesis in Cambodia.

Dr Marilyn Owen



Marilyn joins the paediatric postgraduate group, following on from a six-month stint in Orbost, East Gippsland.

Prior to this, Marilyn was working part-time and on maternity leave. Marilyn has worked in private practice in Melbourne and Perth for nine years since her graduation from the University of Western Australia in 2002. On



Dr Daniel Cocker

Dan comes to us from Princess Margaret Hospital in Perth where he has been working for the last two years. During this time he also worked part time for Dental Health Services and was in private practice

in Albany, Western Australia since graduating in 2006 from the University of Western Australia. Dan has a keen interest in indigenous oral health, being involved with the Kimberley Dental Team since its inception, providing dental care and establishing preventative programs for the indigenous children of the East Kimberley.

Dr Debra Elsby



Debra comes to us from the Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne where she worked for two years treating children and patients with special needs under general anaesthetic and also

Care department. Before that, Debra worked in South Lanarkshire in the West of Scotland as a Dental Officer treating a similar patient base. She graduated from the University of Dundee in 2006 and has had experience in general practice and a rotation in the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery in the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow, Scotland.

# PROFILES

Rowan is a graduate in science, dentistry and law. He did his postgraduate surgical training in Melbourne and the United Kingdom. He is in private practice as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Melbourne and completed 24 years as a visiting consultant at Monash Medical Centre in 2007. He has served as President of the Dental Board of Victoria and as a member of the Australian Dental Examining Council, the Australian Dental Council, the ADA Victorian Branch Council and the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons council and the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

He is a lawyer and officer of the Supreme Court of Victoria. He is an Honorary Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne with responsibility for teaching Law and Ethics in the Doctor of Dental Surgery graduate degree. He holds an honorary teaching appointment at Monash University. Rowan has been part of an annual surgical mission to Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam since 1998, treating cleft and jaw deformity patients and teaching surgical skills.



Dr Jeremy Graham

Jeremy Graham is the First Year Coordinator at 'that other Dental School', the School of Dentistry and Oral Health, La Trobe University. However I am also a casual tutor

to First Year Doctor of Dental Surgery students here at the Melbourne Dental School. I am one of seven Forensic Odontologists at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, also holding an appointment as Forensic Odontologist in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve with the rank of Lieutenant.

I am the Australian Dental Association (Victorian Branch) [ADAVB] representative on the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum Committee and have had a long time interest in dental history due to my own family history. My grandfather, Thomas Sealey, obtained a Licentiate of Dental Surgery from the Australian College of Dentistry 'having passed the sino curriculo examination before the Board' in November 1904. He first set up practice in the suburb where he was born, Albert Park, where his three children were also born: Vernon, Gwen and Joyce. Vernon Sealey was later to become a top class oral surgeon, just down the hall of the 5th floor of the T & G (Temperance & General) Building from 'Pop'. In 1943, Joyce married my father, the late Bernard Graham, before he went off to the Second World War, serving in the Royal Australian Army Dental Corps. In 1980, after serving four years in the Royal Australian Navy as a Dental



## CONVERSATION POSTSCRIPT

Pat Storey  
John Brownbill

by Dr John Brownbill

**JOHN BROWNBILL (JWB)** Well Pat, there was quite a reaction to our "Conversation" in the last issue of DentAL where we talked about your late husband Professor Elson Storey's interest in art.

**PAT STOREY (PS)** Indeed there was. The extended Storey family was particularly pleased that Tony's lifelong interest and hobby has been formally recognized by the dental profession. Dentistry has long recognised his contribution to research and teaching, and the family is pleased about that too.

**JWB** We had a hidden agenda with our previous "Conversation".

**PS** You had suggested to me that it may be an appropriate gesture for the family to present one of Tony's paintings to each of the holders of The Elsdon Storey Chair of Child Dental Health. The family was delighted with the idea and donated the funds for framing of two of his paintings.

**JWB** We kept it a dark secret for almost a year. The Victorian Branch of the Australia

and New Zealand Society of Paediatric Dentistry agreed that the paintings should be presented at the Elsdon Storey Memorial Lecture in October 2012.

**PS** The family embraced the occasion. My son Elsdon Junior and his wife Christine, with the help of others, prepared a stunning presentation on Tony's art. I think that the members were quite surprised by the quality of the works displayed and the extent of Tony's technical knowledge of media and materials.

**JWB** Emeritus Professor Louise Brearley Messer AM as the inaugural holder of The Elsdon Storey Chair of Child Dental Health and Professor David Manton the present incumbent were genuinely surprised and deeply honoured to receive such personal gifts and I am sure that they will be prominently displayed.

**PS** The family is planning for other paintings to be put aside to present to future holders of The Elsdon Storey Chair of Child Dental Health. **D**

*Clinical Associate Professor John W Brownbill teaches Paediatric Dentistry at the Melbourne Dental School and was an undergraduate and graduate student of Professor Storey.*



Photo courtesy of Dr Amy Fung

PICTURED ABOVE L to R: Professor Emeritus Louise Brearley Messer AM and Professor David Manton holding the untitled undated paintings, each 35cm x 45cm. Dr Pat Gladwell (Mrs Tony Storey) and Professor Christine Storey made the presentations on behalf of the family

## PROFILES continued

Officer, I too practised in the T & G Building with Dad, with the late Jack Pedley occupying Uncle Vernon's rooms. I well remember the camaraderie of the dentists in the 'Tooth and Gum', with the likes of the Kings brothers, Gavan Homewood (uncle of Kip Homewood who is an honorary demonstrator in orthodontics at the MDS), even the young Mark Bowman. There were over 70 of us in its rabbit warren-like maze of corridors!

In 1987, Dad and I bought the practice of the late Jim Whitty, who in turn had purchased his practice from Dr Arthur Craven. Dr Craven was an Australian Flying Corps veteran from World War I. One article of the chattels of our purchase was an oaken dental cabinet, made by The American Cabinet Company, Two Rivers, Wisconsin, probably in 1913. It was the main fixture of my surgery in Caulfield - many patients commented on its beauty and its craftsmanship.

Now it is in the Museum's collection.

I am typing this report sitting on my grandfather's desk chair with his desk just behind me. Even though I never knew my grandfather - he died two years before I was born - he has had a profound influence on my life, giving me a real sense of connection with my profession. With that has come the belief that our proud history as a profession should be maintained and kept going, so dentists following us will know just where we've come from. I am very proud to serve on the Committee, but wish I could do more. **D**

## DENT ALUMNI NEWSLETTERAL

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