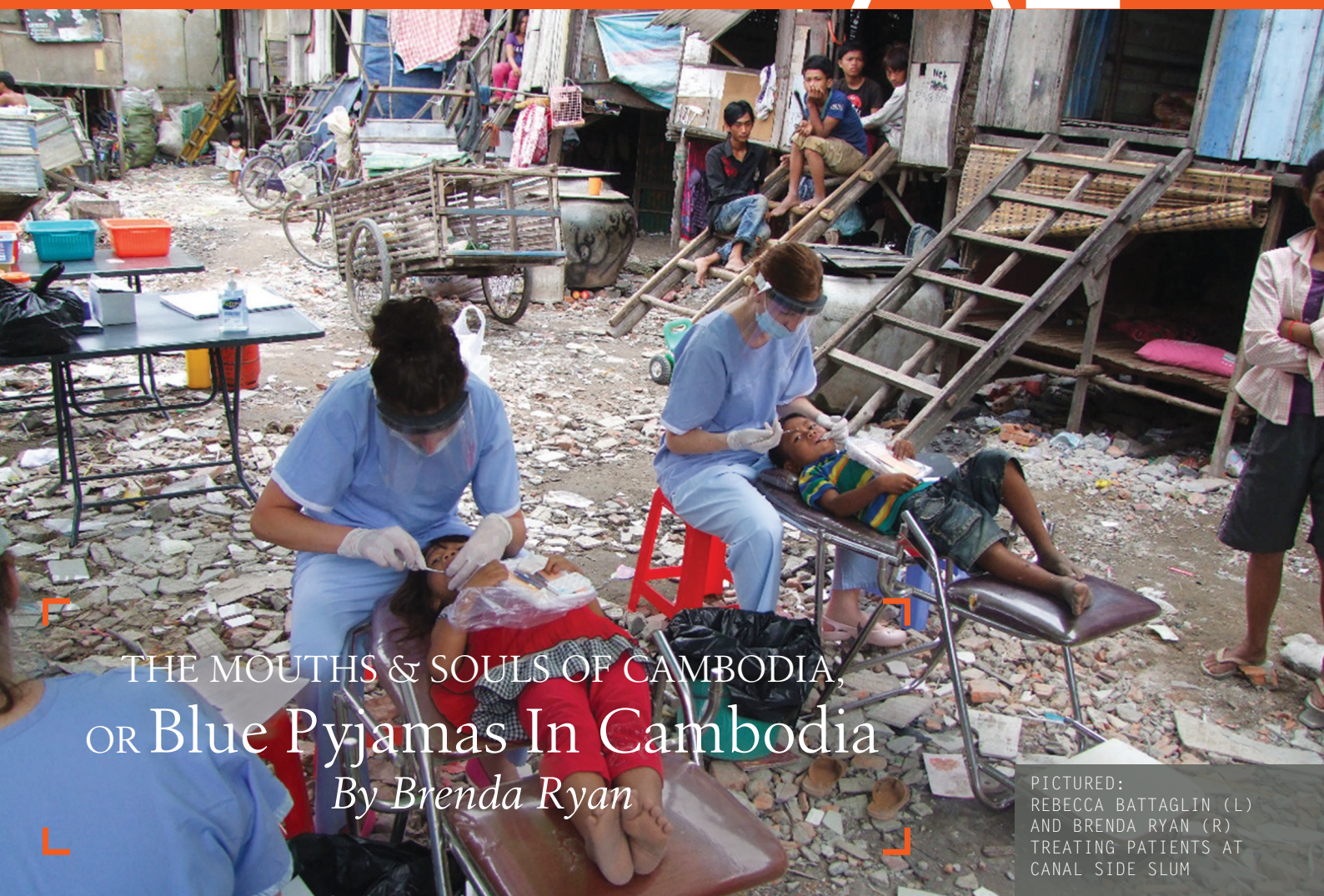


# DENTAL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



## THE MOUTHS & SOULS OF CAMBODIA, OR Blue Pyjamas In Cambodia *By Brenda Ryan*

PICTURED:  
REBECCA BATTAGLIN (L)  
AND BRENDA RYAN (R)  
TREATING PATIENTS AT  
CANAL SIDE SLUM

**C**CHECKING IN AT MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT with 75kg of donated dental supplies, an autoclave and four suitcases with only four travelling passengers is not for the faint hearted, especially with the hefty excess weight penalties airlines charge. But this was to be only the first of many challenges successfully accomplished with ease by two Bachelor of Oral Health (BOH) final year students, Rebecca Battaglin and Erin O'Brien, BOH clinical demonstrator Janette Grice and volunteer experience team leader and BOH lecturer, Brenda Ryan.

"As a part of the BOH final year course work, students have to select a research project

or elective study of interest. This year Rebecca Battaglin and Erin O'Brien chose elective study units that had specific focus in Cambodia. Rebecca focused her research project on Betel Quid, a common masticatory habit in South East Asia and Erin researched extensively into the effects of globalisation on the oral cavity of people in Cambodia".

...Continued page 4





## : From the Head :

**BY ALL MEASURES THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW GRADUATE-ENTRY DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY (DDS) in 2011 by the Melbourne Dental School has been a complete success.** The feedback we have received from the first year cohort has been positive with some subjects like Plaque Related Diseases receiving some of the highest student feedback scores University wide. Congratulations to all staff involved in the development and teaching of this subject and in particular to Dr. Samantha Byrne who has been awarded the IJ Marks and TC Adamson Educational Prize for innovation in teaching related to her involvement in the subject Plaque Related Diseases. Congratulations also to Dr Margaret Stacey for receiving the ultimate teaching honour, the WM and AV Eggleston Trust Excellence in Teaching Award for best teacher in 2011. The recipient of this prize is selected by the student body and thus the award demonstrates a substantial commitment to student satisfaction and performance.

### Melbourne Oral Health Training and Education Centre

A builder has been appointed for the construction of the Melbourne Oral Health Training and Education Centre (MOHTEC) at 723 Swanston Street and the works are progressing well. The planned completion date for the new preclinical simulation laboratory and computer simulation room on the ground floor is February 2012 and for the 50 dental chair clinic, The Melbourne Dental Clinic, is

May 2012. The Melbourne Dental Clinic will provide private practice experience for the DDS, Bachelor of Oral Health and Doctor of Clinical Dentistry students and enable an expansion of student numbers to contribute to the oral health professional workforce and increase community access to dental care. The dental chairs for the clinic will be provided by Sirona and it is anticipated that the clinic will be state-of-the-art on completion.

I would like to thank all the School staff involved in the MOHTEC project as it represents a substantial amount of work at a time when we are also introducing a new curriculum and covering staff shortages. MOHTEC will provide the platform for the expansion of the School's reputation as a Centre of excellence in Teaching and Learning, Research and Research Training and Engagement; the three components of the Triple Helix that underpins the University's Melbourne Model and Strategic Plan Growing Esteem.

### Oral Health CRC Official Launch

The \$31.6 million Oral Health CRC, in which the Melbourne Dental School is the major participant, was officially launched on 7 September, 2011 by Senator the Hon. Kim Carr, Minister for Industry, Innovation, Science and Research. In launching the CRC, Senator Carr said the

Oral Health CRC, "combines our foremost oral health researchers with manufacturers and global marketing experts who have already established Australia as a global leader in oral health". The launch was attended by Senator Carr, the Vice Chancellor Professor Glyn Davis, Victorian Shadow Minister for Health Gavin Jennings, CEO of Dental Health Services Victoria Deborah Cole and many of our supporters. I would like to thank all of those who attended, including our staff and students for making the day a success.



L-R: Professor Glyn Davis (Vice Chancellor, The University of Melbourne), Professor Eric Reynolds AO (CEO, Oral Health CRC), Minister Carr, The Hon Michael Wooldridge (Chairman Oral Health CRC), Professor Tony Peacock (CEO, CRC Association), pictured at the Oral Health CRC's launch



L-R Dr. Gareema Prasad, Ms Jacqueline Heath, The Hon. David Davis, Minister for Health, Professor Eric Reynolds, A/Professor Ivan Darby & Ms Shao Bing Fong



A/Prof Rodrigo Mariño ON THE REMOTE TELEDENTISTRY PROJECT



The new Melbourne Dental Clinic

### Winners in the highly coveted Colgate Travel Awards

The International Association for Dental Research, Australia and New Zealand Division meeting was held in Melbourne 25 – 28 September, 2011. The Melbourne Dental School was well represented with staff and students giving 18 oral presentations and displaying 26 posters. In a fantastic result for the Melbourne Dental School, my congratulations go to the winners of the highly coveted Colgate Travel Awards. Student winners were Shao Bing Fong

(1st place, Senior competition), Jacqueline Heath (1st place, Junior competition) and Dr Gareema Prasad (2nd place, Senior competition). It is an excellent result for the Melbourne Dental School to have our students win both first places and second place in the competition. Both

Shao Bing and Jacqueline are studying how the chronic disease periodontitis is caused. This disease affects the tissues surrounding teeth and can lead to tooth loss. Shao Bing and Jacqueline's research could benefit the estimated 20% of Australians who suffer from moderate to severe forms of the disease. As winners of these awards, all three students will receive funding from Colgate to represent the University of Melbourne and the Oral Health CRC at the IADR Global meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2012. The IADR ANZ meeting provided an excellent opportunity for dental researchers to meet, renew acquaintances and establish new collaborations. International guests from the UK, Denmark, Japan as well as the IADR Global President Dianne Rekow told me they were very impressed with the meeting and particularly with the Melbourne Dental School. They remarked on both the quality of the School's research as well as the professionalism of the organization of the meeting. My thanks go to the organizing committee, ably led by A/ Professor Ivan Darby (Immediate Past President of the IADR ANZ).

*As winners of these awards, all three students will receive funding from Colgate to represent the University of Melbourne and the Oral Health CRC at the IADR Global meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2012.*

### Teledentistry

The Prime Minister, The Hon. Julia Gillard and Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator The Hon. Stephen Conroy recently received a demonstration of the School's teledentistry capabilities. Touring the Australian Broadband Applications Laboratory (ABAL), the Prime Minister and Minister Conroy viewed applications of the National Broadband Network. Professor David Manton and A/Professor Matt Hopcraft demonstrated the remote teledentistry project, which investigates whether improvements in accessibility and appropriateness of oral health services can be achieved by using broadband technologies to screen for oral disease in older people living in residential aged care facilities. This project is being undertaken by the Melbourne Dental School, the Oral Health CRC and the Institute for a Broadband Enabled Society (IBES).

### Staff Achievements

Congratulations to Professor Michael McCullough on his promotion to Professor and Associate Professor Roy Judge on his appointment as Associate Professor (Prosthodontics) and Interim Clinical Director of MOHTEC.

I thank all staff and students for their substantial contributions to the Melbourne Dental School in 2011 and wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. **D**

### PROFESSOR ERIC REYNOLDS

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



# COVER STORY THE MOUTHS & SOULS OF CAMBODIA, OR Blue Pyjamas In Cambodia ...Continued from front page

Two weeks were spent at numerous orphanages, slum communities, remote villages and at a deaf and blind school where mostly relief of pain services, restorations, preventive therapy and oral health education were provided. One week was in and around the capital city of Phnom Penh and then for the second week we travelled by bus to Siem Reap, some four and a half hours away.

“These two weeks were organized in conjunction with One 2 One Charitable Trust, which is a non profit organization that runs numerous projects throughout Cambodia. Dr. Callum Durward is the Trusts Executive Director. Callum is a paediatric specialist from New Zealand, with an MDS from The University of Melbourne and is also the Dean of the International University Dental Faculty in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. For further information on this Charitable Trust and their fantastic work and future volunteer experiences, please visit the website: <http://www.one2onecharitabletrust.org>.

Following is a brief account of some of these amazing adventures during this time”. One particular orphanage we visited, called The Happy Tree, is an HIV based facility that currently has 94 children aged from 18 months to 14 years. This orphanage has been a regular visiting place for Brenda over the last three years and has been receiving regular dental services from One 2 One Charitable Trust, via International University’s Dental Faculty and more recently, with a single chair unit being set up and staffed on the orphanage grounds. Our group purchased food supplies for this orphanage from the funds we had raised and the generous donations we received. Visiting and playing with these children, most of whom were well, happy and wanting cuddles really is something special and difficult to describe.

There is nothing more humbling than to walk into a slum community where the children barely have clothing or shoes but are playing and laughing so happily amongst the rumble and rubbish. Unfortunately what these children did have in plentiful supply was scabies, head lice and dental decay. Our covered toe crocs should have been replaced by safety boots but once we got the feel of broken bricks, tiles and rubbish

*The slum chief watched over us in a very grandfatherly way for hours and his other main duty was to keep the rooster and hens out from under our dental chairs and feet, although he was not all that successful with this task. Some of us now no longer mind live fowl wandering over our shoes and pecking around our ankles.*

underfoot we felt we had our sea legs as such, and this became one less factor to think about. The slum community welcomed us generously and had even rigged up a tarpaulin shelter area protecting us from the sun, which was extremely thoughtful. The slum chief watched over us in a very grandfatherly way for hours and his other main duty was to keep the rooster and hens out from under our dental chairs and feet, although he was not all that successful with this task. Some of us now no longer mind live fowl wandering over our shoes and pecking around our ankles.

Kampong Speu was a remote village that we visited for a day to see all the children from the local school. To have a view from your dental set up out over the rice fields, watching the buffalo plough the fields seems like a world away. Reality soon hits as the heat and wind become a pressing problem. Then the children arrive all smiles and with rampant caries evident. So this was another long but gratifying day.

One Saturday morning we were up again early to travel to Phnom Penh’s Women’s Correctional Facility. This was to be another eye opening experience as we were to treat the children that live in the facility with their mothers. Teaching the mothers and expectant mothers about oral health and child oral health was vital, as was attending to the women’s own dental needs. We were



JANETTE GRICE (L) AND  
BRENDA RYAN TRY  
THE LOCAL CUISINE

disappointed to not be able to take photographs while inside but some of the women spoke English and were quite happy to talk about their lives and circumstances, inside which were bleak.

During our time at the Siem Reap School for the Deaf and Blind, we had ten final year Dental Students from International University with us. This was a great opportunity for international collaboration and learning in a unique environment. We provided treatment, nursing assistance and sterilization duties on a rotational basis to enhance learning opportunities between all groups, which there were many of. This was also a great chance for the Cambodian dental students to have clinical demonstrating support from both Brenda and Jan for a week.

During this two week volunteer placement, the BOH students performed 143 examinations, 88 restorations, 41 extractions and 307 preventive therapies, such as fissure protection and fluoride varnish applications. Oral health education was provided via interpreters and got particularly more intricate as English was translated to Khmer (Cambodia’s national language) and then into sign language for those children at the deaf school. It was a long process but very entertaining and totally rewarding.

## Final Remarks by Brenda Ryan

If sampling deep-fried spiders, a snake on a stick or being served intestines and “mixed stomach” for lunch was part of the brief for the volunteer dental experience in Cambodia, then I’m not sure this year’s BOH students would have necessarily signed themselves up. But they can say they were challenged educationally, clinically, personally...and nutritionally, on an almost daily basis.

## Final Remarks by Rebecca Battaglin and Erin O’Brien

The Cambodia Volunteer experience was by far one of the most rewarding and influential experiences of our lives and we would go back in a heartbeat. To know that we made a difference to disadvantaged children living in an impoverished developing country like Cambodia is something we are proud of and we will treasure the smile on the children’s faces forever.

This trip would not have been possible without the generous support of those who purchased from our numerous sausages sizzles, made and purchased our delicious baking and supported our other fundraising events. Also to those dental companies and community and private clinics who again generously donated much needed dental supplies. So a huge thank-you to all of you from ourselves and the children of Cambodia that crossed our path. D

EDITORS NOTE Brenda is the joint coordinator for Oral Health Practice 2 and coordinator for Oral Health Practice 3.

# Amanda & Alice

Dental Placement in Alice Springs by Ms Amanda Phoon BDS 5th Year 2011

THANKS TO A SARRAH SCHOLARSHIP, I was lucky enough to undertake a dental placement in Alice Springs. Though I was looking forward to leaving the Melbourne chill behind and soaking up some sunshine, there was some trepidation as I had little idea of what to expect.

After a rocky start (Qantas lost my baggage), I arrived at the Flynn Drive Dental Centre. The team quickly made me feel welcome, and fifteen minutes in, I was ready, instruments in hand, for my first case. Learning how to manage patients, especially those whom arrived from remote bush communities, was enlightening, and I gained good experience over the 2 weeks. Some cases were challenging but I never felt that there was not someone nearby to provide help.

A typical day at the practice started at 8 in the morning, with patients booked through to lunch. From 1 to 3pm, the clinic was open for walk-in emergencies, before finishing the day at 4.20pm with a few more appointments. Because patients might be coming in from as far as several hundred kilometres away, some toothache cases were very severe and most opted for extractions.

Another highlight of the placement was working at the Alice Springs Hospital with children under general anesthesia.

As my visit coincided with the Easter weekend, I spent time camping around the Uluru area. The hikes were challenging, but the views were breathtaking! Watching the sun rise over Ayers Rock and listening to Dreamtime tales was worth all the early morning starts. I might have visited for a dental placement, but I also climbed a canyon, swam in a gorge, rode a camel and ate a camel (not the same one, I sincerely hope).

The Northern territory was beyond anything I ever expected, and I encourage students to apply for the SARRAH scholarship as my trip was incredible.

Many thanks to my supervisors Dr. Meg Simmons and Dr. Mykhailo Dor, as well as to the Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health for making the whole thing possible! D



PICTURED FROM THE TOP:  
AMANDA PHOON IN THE SURGERY,  
THE DENTAL TEAM, & ULURU!



# NEWS IN BRIEF

## International role for CRC Board Member



Associate Professor Neil Hewson, Independent Oral Health CRC Board Member, has been elected as Speaker of the General Assembly at the FDI World Dental Federation.

The FDI World Dental Federation is a federation of approximately 200 national dental associations and specialist groups representing more than one million dentists worldwide. The organisation's vision of "leading the world to optimal oral health" acknowledges that oral health is an integral part of general health and well-being. As part of his new role, Associate Professor Hewson will play an influential role in the development of world oral health policy.

Associate Professor Hewson is an Independent Board Member with the Oral Health CRC, providing a valuable practitioner perspective based on his distinguished career as a practising dentist. He is the immediate past President of the Australian Dental Association (ADA), was Victorian Branch Chairman of Professions Australia, is an Australian Dental Council Director and is a Clinical Leads for the National E-Health Transition Authority.

Photographer unknown. Members of the Australian College of Dentistry (MACD) Graduates, c.1900, sepia toned photograph, 46.0 x 58.0 cm (frame), Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, reg. no. 1983

## Awards & Appointments

**MELBOURNE LAUREATE PROFESSOR** On the recommendation of the Honours Committee, The University of Melbourne Council has appointed Professor Eric Reynolds a Melbourne Laureate Professor. This honour, rarely bestowed, is reserved for the most distinguished members of academic staff at The University of Melbourne and indicates the extraordinary high standing that Eric enjoys within this University, both nationally and internationally. The Melbourne Dental School congratulates Eric on this prestigious appointment.

**VICHEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENT** Professor Mike Morgan, from the Oral Health CRC and the University of Melbourne, has been appointed to the Board of the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth).

VicHealth works in partnership with organisations, communities and individuals to promote good health and prevent ill-health. Professor Morgan's appointment highlights the increasing evidence base showing links between oral health and systemic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and certain cancers.

Professor Morgan has a particular interest in dental public health and preventive dentistry, and currently leads the Oral Health CRC's program evaluating Australia's oral health problems.

Research within this program aims to expand current knowledge of oral health status and related behaviours, improve understanding of the links between oral health and systemic diseases and identify molecules which are associated with oral diseases.

Appointing the new members of VicHealth's Board, Health Minister David Davis said the new board members were leaders in their particular fields, with the expertise which will be used to guide VicHealth in the coming years.

**2011 EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER AWARD** Dr. Elena Toh received the 2011 Early Career Researcher Award from the CRC Association. This was awarded by the CRCA for Elena's excellent 10 minute presentation at the recent CRCA Conference. Dr. Toh discovered in milk the key to a new low cost, pain-free solution that may help prevent gum disease.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** Emeritus Professor Louise Brearley-Messer has received the Distinguished Service Award from the Australian Dental Association Victorian Branch. This award is to recognise a long-term, outstanding contribution to the dental professional. It is very pleasing to see Louise's contribution to the dental profession recognised with this very prestigious award.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. SU-YAN BARROW**, on completing her PhD. Su-yan, 2nd year co-ordinator for the Bachelor of Oral Health is one of a few Oral Health professionals to attain a PhD.



**MY JOURNEY TO THE PHD:** As a dental hygiene student one of my external rotations

was an assignment to a homeless shelter in Manhattan, New York where I provided oral health promotion to the residents. This was a life changing experience, as I was confronted with individuals whose priority was not brushing their teeth twice a day or flossing before bed, when there were underlying issues that contributed to their living condition. Up to that point I was very excited at the prospects of entering the dental hygiene profession, but envisioned how additional education would advance my knowledge in the social determinants of health and equip me with strategies in health promotion that I would utilize to meet the needs of my patients. As a result of my experience at the homeless shelter and later, as a Co-Investigator in a National Institutes of Health Oral Health Epidemiology study investigating the oral health disparities among various ethnic/racial groups, I subsequently pursued a Master degree in Education to acquire the pedagogical skills to become an academic, followed by a Master

in Public Health which provided the foundation knowledge in public health/health promotion. Combining the knowledge from the two degrees allowed me to implement a public health stream in the Bachelor in Dental Health curriculum at New York University College of Dentistry. My goal is to instil in students the importance of the social determinants of health when providing dental health services for their patients.

Whilst coordinating the New York City Department of Health component of the Center for Disease Control National Oral Health Surveillance Survey, I decided to pursue a doctoral degree as the results indicated the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) children had the greatest unmet oral health needs when compared to the other racial/ethnic groups. I wanted to investigate the contributing factors affecting the children's oral health status for my doctoral thesis at Walden University. I conducted a retrospective secondary analysis of the dataset from the API children to determine their caregivers' influence on the children's dental services utilization. The dataset was comprised of data collected from the caregivers' self-reported questionnaires, in addition to oral examinations of each child. The Health Belief Model was used as the theoretical framework for this research to explain the caregivers' choices for their children's dental health care. My doctoral research has given me the opportunity to provide data on the oral health of API children. This racial/ethnic group of children has not been previously investigated, which is evident in the missing data in the US Healthy People 2010 document. Completing the doctoral degree has been very rewarding as I have employed my public health knowledge in academia, community settings and to the dental profession.



## Former Student Wins Prestigious Award

Dr. Suhail Al-Amad, Assistant Professor at the College of Dentistry,

University of Sharjah, has been awarded the Australian Federal Police Operations Medal.

This recent award comes in recognition of Dr. Al-Amad's role in disaster victim identification operations which were run by the Australian Federal Police the most important of which was "Operation Cawdor" that involved identifying victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004. During this operation, which took place over a 12 month period, more than 3,000 victims were identified using fingerprints, DNA and dental characteristics, but the majority of victims were successfully identified using the dental identification method.

The Australian Federal Police Operations Medal is awarded to eligible persons who are involved in police operations deemed to be significant.

Dr. Al-Amad is currently providing consultations and specialized training to Abu Dhabi Police Headquarters for the purpose of establishing a national Forensic Odontology team capable of responding to disasters and mass fatality incidents.

*Developing dental education and research in Victoria – latest Witness seminar to go online*

**INSIGHTS INTO THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES POLITICS** of the step-wise fluoridation of Victoria's water supply and efforts to limit junk food in school tuckshops are two of many themes explored in the latest Witness seminar to go online.

The seminar, hosted by the School of Dental Science and convened

by Dr. Ann Westmore, is one of a series recording the history of Australian medicine through peer-reviewed oral history. It can be accessed at <http://www.jnmhugateways.unimelb.edu.au/witness/contents.html>

Twenty-one participants, including former University of Melbourne School of Dental Science

academic staff members and students from the late 1940s to the early 2000s, reflected on the promotion of dental health in Victoria, the management of dental and oral disease, key contributions to dental research and practice, and the many challenges remaining.

Previous Witness seminars, with transcripts available online are:

• 'A chapter in the evolution of paediatrics in Australia: The University of Melbourne

Department of Paediatrics at the Royal Children's Hospital 1959-2003'

• 'From "soft" to "hard" science: The development of microvascular surgery in Australia'

• Venomous Country: Struan Sutherland, Medical Science and Australian Animal Toxins

For further information about the Witness seminar program contact Dr. Ann Westmore at [afwest@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:afwest@unimelb.edu.au)

# Witness Seminar





## Vale: Dr Ernst (Effy) H. Ehrmann

OAM  
BDSc (Melbourne), FDSRCS (England), DDS  
(Toronto), LDSRCDS (Ontario), Diplomat American  
Board of Endodontics, FRACDS, FICD, FACD, FPFA.

**WE WERE SADDENED TO HEAR** of the passing of our esteemed colleague and friend Effy Ehrmann on 27th April, 2011.

Born in Mainz, Germany on 30th April, 1924, Effy emigrated to Australia in 1939 and was educated at Melbourne Boys High School. He earned his BDS from The University of Melbourne in 1949. For the next several years he had hospital and teaching appointments overseas, mainly in the UK and Canada where he obtained further qualifications. It was whilst overseas, but especially in Toronto, that he developed his enthusiasm for and skills in diagnosis, treatment planning and general patient care in endodontics. Upon returning to Australia, Effy commenced private general practice in Melbourne, until 1967.

Effy's contributions to organised endodontics began in 1960 when he became a founding member and early President of the Melbourne Endodontia Study Club, which was the forerunner of the Victorian Branch of the Australian Society of Endodontology. This was all at a time when endodontics was not yet regarded as a speciality in Australia. In 1968 Effy was amongst the first to restrict his practice to endodontics in Australia. He was also noted to be the stimulus for the formation of the Endodontic Study Club of Brisbane (the forerunner of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Society of Endodontology). In 1967 Effy was the programme chairman of the first Australian Endodontic Convention organised by

the Melbourne Endodontia Study Club. It was at this ground breaking meeting that the ASE was formed. The ASE Newsletter (now the Australian Endodontic Journal) was commenced in 1967 and Effy became its first editor from 1967 until 1970. Many of the current established concepts within the ASE such as prizes for undergraduate dental students, now known as the "Student Essay Competition" were also subsequent to Effy's recommendation. It was consequent to an approach by the Melbourne Endodontia Study Club to the Australian Bureau of Standards (the forerunner of the Therapeutic Goods Administration) that the Endodontic Materials Subcommittee D12 was established and Effy served on this committee for 12 years from the time of its inception.

At around the same time Effy made a contribution to the wider community. He became a part-time visiting dental consultant at Prince Henry's Hospital, a position he retained for many years, assisting patients with significant health and dental issues. At the time of his retirement from this position, when the hospital itself closed, he was the only specialist endodontist attached to a public hospital in Australia. Subsequently the dental unit was transferred to Monash Medical Centre, with a continuing position as an endodontic consultant as his legacy.

In 1975, Effy commenced a very long and productive relationship with the University of Melbourne, being initially a lecturer and in due course being recognised as a Senior Fellow. He was involved in the teaching of endodontics and pain diagnosis in both the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. He retired from this teaching in December 2010 and only because of his illness. Effy was also involved in organizing and teaching for many years at many endodontic Continuing Education courses (Summer schools and other seasonal courses), jointly run by the University of Melbourne and Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne. From 1965 to 1982 he provided lectures to the dental nurses training course, a course then run by the ADA (VB). Over many years he presented lectures and table clinics to all manner of dental groups and in many locations throughout Victoria and other parts of Australia.

Effy contributed many articles and letters to various dental and medical journals in both English and German, covering a range of dental topics. He had a special interest in the relationship between medical conditions and dentistry. In particular, he engaged the medical profession in objective debate about such issues as focal infection.

Effy's was a life of service and education and he will be greatly missed by the colleagues that knew him, and came under his influence. In 2004 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal, OAM, for services to dentistry and the Jewish Community. He had no professional secrets, he learnt from everyone and he shared everything with anyone who had receptive minds. He lifted the discipline of endodontics from a sometimes hit-or-miss process to probably the most predictable conservative measure in modern dental practice. Effy is survived by his wife Susie and children Daniel, Jenny and Megan, to whom we extend our heart-felt condolences.

.....  
*By Associate Professor Peter Parashos  
& Drs Enio Rebellato, Gary Nervo &  
Phillippe Zimet*

*On behalf of the Melbourne Dental  
School sympathy is extended to the  
Ehrmann family.*



## Vale: Dr Anthony Roseman

**DR ANTHONY (TONY) ROSEMAN** enjoyed the high esteem of his colleagues because he was authoritative in his knowledge of regulatory and professional matters, yet compassionate in his application of that knowledge.

His insight into the practice of dentistry was earned over a lifetime of service to the community as a general practitioner, mainly in Doncaster, and as a member of the dental unit at The Alfred Hospital. Tony was noted for being available around the clock and became very adept at providing dental care for haemophiliac patients. As an Honorary dentist he mentored many young graduates at the Alfred, as well as performing many dentoalveolar procedures in support of the Facio-Maxillary team. The warmth of his good natured approach to the Staff and patients of the Unit made the acceptance of dental treatment for those unwell attending the Clinic a less stressful experience. He made a habit of visiting people in hospital, and in his "spare" time he provided care to the residents of the Montefiore Homes for the Aged in St Kilda Road.

An early insight into the value of keeping appropriate dental records was experienced in his first year of practice in England. A legal dispute over the need to extract

a tooth was quickly resolved when he produced the xray he had taken before the extraction.

Following his 'retirement' from private practice Tony became a member of the Dental Board of Victoria. When the Dental Practice Board of Victoria (DPBV) replaced the DBV he took on the role of Chief Investigator, where he was a key factor in the development of a positive relationship between the profession and the new regulator. This was not because he was 'soft' in his interpretation of regulatory requirements, but rather because he was at pains to help people meet the requirements, and to focus on them becoming better practitioners rather than simply punishing them for their errors. His desire to educate was often an underlay for the concise but accurate information he presented to Board hearings.

His infection control knowledge was informed by his hospital experience, but tempered by deep insight into the entirely different circumstances and practicalities of working in small office based practice settings. His lectures on this subject were practically oriented and offered his audience accessible ways of addressing their obligations to protect the safety of the public whilst ensuring the occupational health and safety of practitioners and staff. His quiet confidence in his knowledge was offered with humility and sensitivity to dealing with all the complexities of dental treatment, in parallel with observance of correct protocols and ethical obligations.

The high regard in which his work was held by the profession was formally expressed by the ADAVB when Tony was presented with the Dentistry Achievement Award in 2008 for 'Community Service and Management in the Public Health Sector'.

Following the establishment of the new national registration and accreditation system in mid-2010, Tony accepted an invitation to join the Community Relations team at the ADAVB. He was a natural in this role given his concern for the public and his insight into the complexities of delivering dental services. The same quiet authority in his knowledge about regulatory requirements and good practice, combined with compassion and wanting to help people to achieve resolution of their problems, informed

his work at the ADAVB as it had at the DPBV. Rather than being the new team member who needed to be briefed by more experienced colleagues, he immediately became a valuable source of information and insight into a wide range of topics and issues for both professional and lay colleagues.

In his personal relationships with those colleagues he was warm and engaging. As well as being a highly respected senior member of the profession, he made many friends in dentistry. Those who had the privilege of working with him appreciated his mentoring skills, and his advice and guidance were much valued. In this sense he demonstrated caring professionalism, in which his intelligence and knowledge were complemented by sincerity and being a genuine good bloke. This roundness of character was perhaps partially crafted by his education. Due to the lack of Jewish schools in the area, Tony was educated at Christian Brothers' College St Kilda. He proudly told of having won the religious prize three years running. And with the cheers and boos from Junction Oval drifting over his home, he grew to know about losing and winning through the variable fortunes of his beloved St Kilda Football Club.

Tony was the epitome of dental professionalism, whose generosity of spirit and quiet dignity earned the respect of all who worked with him. He was and remains one of our most esteemed colleagues and friends. We shall remember him with great affection. **D**

.....  
*EDITORS NOTE Both obituaries reprinted with  
permission of the Australian Dental Association  
Victorian Branch.*

*Our sympathy is extended to the Roseman family.*



# Australian Dental Art: Albert Tucker, Artist

By Dr. Neville Regan

TWO IMAGES BY ALBERT TUCKER (1914–1999)<sup>1</sup> are shown in this series of the dentist and the patient in art. The two illustrations reproduced here are black and white ‘cartoons grotesque’. They were drawn by Albert Tucker, signed under the nom de plume of TUK and published in *The Australasian National Illustrated Weekly* in 1945.<sup>2</sup> They were both entered in the monthly competition for the ‘Black and White Prize’ of ten guineas for humorous black and white drawings, and both show direct expressions, in a different medium, of the development of his series of oil paintings called *Images of Modern Evil*, 1943–1948.

The *Images of Modern Evil* paintings were influenced by Tucker’s experience and observations during World War II. The paintings share recurring abstract motifs which include the protoplasmic female figure, single elaborately stylized eyes, the green Melbourne tram, naked electric light bulbs, distorted exaggerated images of the body, sexual context, partly obscured iconic street advertising signs, and crescent shaped mouths.<sup>3</sup> The two dental cartoons on paper could well be considered part of the *Images of Modern Evil* series as they contain abundant reference to these motifs and symbols.

The first of the drawings, *Sometimes the impulse to have a shot at surgery almost overwhelms me*, 1945 (fig 1), is a pre extraction cartoon and shows the maniacal dentist exposing his teeth with a “twist or twirl to his lip”, a “bald domed forehead”, and “a penetrating gaze”, with forceps which look like hardware store pliers in hand.<sup>4</sup> The terrified patient with “eyes absolutely bugged out of his head in an awful state of tension” is reminiscent of a patient at Heidelberg Military Hospital that Tucker described in 1979 in an interview with James

Gleeson and which he captured in an early pastel drawing; *Psycho*, 1942.<sup>5</sup> Both dentist and patient in the cartoon have distorted bodies, limbs and hands. The only equipment shown is a small arm rest and head rest. In the background there is a simple chart of molar teeth. Describing the origins of one of the key motifs in the *Images of Modern Evil* Tucker recalled:

“The green Melbourne tram...I remember being briefly caught on the tram tracks by traffic. Before I could cross there was a tram bearing down on me, with a great rattling roar. I went into a state of complete terror and panic and leapt off the tracks. It always stayed on my mind...A perfect symbol of fear and anxiety...the threat of atrocious mutilation, the tram bearing down on me...the human figure sometimes seems to assume a certain demonic element...almost a stock image of threat, of impending disaster, of fear.”<sup>6</sup>

These words could have aptly described the traditional feelings of the dental patient towards ensuing treatments. I think Tucker exemplified this in drawing the dentist with teeth that looked like the motif of the St Kilda Road tram tracks, thereby imbueing further fear into the patient.<sup>7</sup> Chris McAuliffe observed that the “*Images of Modern Evil* are addressed in terms of incident and response.”<sup>8</sup> This certainly describes the dental treatment shown in this cartoon. A comparison with this image of the dentist and patient being shown in a one to one situation is the dramatic realism of the lithograph in the series “*Les Grimaces*” by Louis Leopold Boilly with the title, *Le baume d’acier*, 1823.

The second cartoon, *Funny. He was here only a moment ago.*, 1945 (fig 2), a post extractions cartoon, includes more of the surroundings of the surgery; the dental equipment, the chair, unit, bracket table and drill, which are all sleek and streamlined. No catalogues in the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum depict such a design in the 1940s. This is an example of the

modernist trend interpreted by Tucker.

The confused dentist, with the same enormously domed forehead, the distorted limbs, hands and feet, with teeth once again reminiscent of Melbourne tram tracks, is depicted as a buffoon not unlike *Robert Macaire*, *Dentiste* in the lithograph by Honoré Daumier, in 1837.

The patient’s legs have been converted into schematic double jagged wire filaments hanging from the ceiling rose.<sup>9</sup> There are numerous extracted teeth that are lying discarded on the floor leading one to ponder whether Albert Tucker was influenced by his own experiences with recent extractions, or is he referring to the ‘Images’ series, and the early paintings that showed teeth in the crescent like mouth. In later works of the series the crescent shaped mouth became a simplified abstract form, without teeth.<sup>10</sup> The stylized forceps with tooth held by the dentist, is an exact representation to that depicted in a 15th Century woodcut print of St Apollonia, the patron saint of sufferers of toothache. In her free hand Apollonia holds her own insignia, the forceps with the tooth. The artist’s signature reads, “the Master with the dagger”.<sup>11</sup>

Fig. 1. Albert Tucker, Australian, *Sometimes the impulse to have a shot at surgery almost overwhelms me*, 1945, ink and felt tipped pen on paper; 26 x 24 cm (mount), 46.2 x 42.2 cm (frame). Collection of Dr Timothy Holder.

Fig. 2. Albert Tucker, Australian, *Funny. He was here only a moment ago.*, 1945, ink and felt tipped pen and pastel on paper; 31.4 x 24.3 cm (mount), 52.3 x 45.0 cm (frame). Private collection.



The wall chart of anthropomorphic teeth in the background of the cartoon includes more motifs from the *Images of Modern Evil* series. On one half, the subtitle of hyphenated ‘BI-CUSPID’, together with the dancing teeth suggest a ‘kind of sexuality’ and moral corruption not usually published in newspapers of the day. The series always had a female form in each painting; here one of the teeth has ‘very feminine imagery’ with a single stylised eye. The ‘masculine’ teeth have a single eye which could have transmogrified from a carious crater. The subtitle in the other half of the chart ‘MOLA’ is comparable to the iconic Melbourne Street advertising signs of ‘ASPRO’ and ‘HOYTS’,

highlighted in the ‘Images’ series with their last letters concealed.

Within the parameters of this article, Tucker’s two black and white cartoons are an example of the historical, comic, disparaging, portrayal of dentistry. This was explored in an article in the *Journal of the American Dental Association*, June 1989, by the article’s author James H. Barry, titled, “Dentistry’s public image: does it need a boost?”<sup>12</sup>, which was published at the beginning of the *Smile America!* public awareness campaign to counter such criticisms,

boost dentistry’s image, and to enhance the profession’s image with the public.

Thanks to partners and staff at Blackburn Dental Group, Michael Crooks and Louise Murray, from the Melbourne Dental School and Dr. Timothy Holder.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Born December 1914, Footscray, died October 1999 Melbourne

<sup>2</sup> See *The Australasian National Illustrated Weekly*, 6 October, 1945, p. 32 and 25 August, 1945, p. 34

<sup>3</sup> For a discussion of Tucker’s motifs see: Lesley Harding, editor, *Images of modern evil: Albert Tucker*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, 2011, pp. 19–32, pp. 33–44, pp. 81–102

<sup>4</sup> See: *Interview with Albert Tucker [sound recording] / interviewer, James Gleeson, 2 May 1979*, Hurstbridge, National Gallery of Australia. <http://nga.gov.au>, interview transcription, pp. 3–7. I consider that the dentist in both cartoons is a caricature of Adrian Lawlor, an artist and friend. See *Portrait of Adrian Lawlor*, 1939, by Albert Tucker. In conversation with

James Gleeson in 1979, Tucker states “I remember doing memory drawings of him....Adrian had an extraordinary head—a bald dome that went right up...an enormously domed forehead...I can still remember his face when he would suddenly shoot me a questioning look—a penetrating sudden stab. He had a curious little twirl, or twist to his mouth which fascinated me at the time; I was quite preoccupied with it. Little did I know that it was going to...come through and lead to all that (the distinctive crescent mouth).”

<sup>5</sup> *Interview with Albert Tucker [sound recording] / interviewer, James Gleeson, 2 May 1979*, Hurstbridge, National Gallery of Australia. <http://nga.gov.au>, interview transcription, p. 31

<sup>6</sup> *Interview with Albert Tucker [sound recording] / interviewer, James Gleeson, 2 May 1979*, Hurstbridge, National Gallery of Australia. <http://nga.gov.au>, interview transcription, p. 22

<sup>7</sup> I consider that the image of this patient could be a self caricature of Albert Tucker. Referring to the oil painting by Tucker, *Self Portrait*, 1937. Dominic Nagy (see: [cs.nga.gov.au](http://cs.nga.gov.au)) describes the curve of the artist’s nose, broken while at school, and also his conservative image, both of which are evident in the cartoon. The details of the constrictive shirt collar and neck tie, together with the impression of the jacket and buttons are common items in other self portraits. The dimpled chin is certainly Tucker’s characteristic feature.

<sup>8</sup> Harding, *Images of modern evil: Albert Tucker*, 2011, p. 45

<sup>9</sup> This symbolism is evident in the light bulb of *Image of Modern Evil 29*

<sup>10</sup> *Interview with Albert Tucker [sound recording] / interviewer, James Gleeson, 2 May 1979*, Hurstbridge, National Gallery of Australia. <http://nga.gov.au>, interview transcription, p. 27

<sup>11</sup> The original is among the Wessler collection of the Royal School of Dentistry, Stockholm. A coloured lithograph reproduced from the original for an advert by Astra Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Ltd is in the collection of the Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, see reg. no. 816

<sup>12</sup> James H. Barry, “Dentistry’s public image: does it need a boost?”, *Journal of the American Dental Association*, vol. 118, June 1989, pp. 687–692



# The history and philosophy of early dentistry: Part 1

By H F Atkinson

**WHEN CONSIDERING THE WRITING OF A HISTORY of early dentistry in Victoria, substantial material can be found on the lives of individual dentists and their contributions to the politics and development of the profession, but little on the evolution of 'the details of dental practice'.** Mr John Iliffe and colleagues were clear and precise in their aims to educate dentists through a college and to care for the deserving poor with a hospital. The archives are replete with details of their public successes and disappointments but of their daily trials and tribulations in the treatment of patients, or the society in which they moved, there is little. To open this discussion it is suggested that amongst the many discoveries that have been made in science and medicine during the last centuries that have been absorbed by dentistry, none has had a greater effect on its progress than that of electricity. Dentists may not have made a contribution to the fundamental understanding of electricity but they were quick and persistent in adapting it to the better care of their patients.

A possible and tenuous first association of electricity with dentistry could have occurred as long ago as the time of Pierre Fauchard (1678– 1761), the father of modern dentistry. Through his many social and professional contacts in the exciting new world of science, he would no doubt have heard of Luigi Galvani (1737–1788) and his experiments on the muscles of frog's legs which were observed to twitch when touched by two dissimilar metals. At that time, it was thought that a new kind of electricity had been discovered, different from 'galvanic' or 'animal' electricity that was made by rubbing amber on silk. However it was Alessandra Volta (1745–1827), using his 'voltaic pile' that disproved the theory and whose further work led to the development of the primary cell for the production of a constant source of

electricity. This advance allowed Michael Faraday (1791–1867), to unravel many of the mysteries of electricity and magnetism that eventually led to the development of electro plating and electric machines.

The early primary cell, with zinc and copper plates in an acidic solution, could not maintain a steady voltage when used in simple experiments. Leclanche , Daniel and Bunsen cells, and eventually the lead acid 'accumulator' of Laplante (1859), were developed in response to this. Once a stable source of electricity became available, thoughts would have occurred both in medicine and dentistry as to how this new form of energy, often referred to as a 'fluid', might be used to the benefit of patients. Inspired by the early work of Galvani and Volta, the French physician Duchenne (1806–1875), began investigating nerve and muscle action. This led him to treat patients suffering from neuralgias with low voltage electricity applied through large electrodes. Some few years later, dentists were reported using primary cells in a similar manner for the treatment of both dental pain and for the obtunding of dentine. The new techniques were known as cataphoresis.

As an example of the rapidity of the development of the new medium, the citizens of Melbourne, who were just appreciating the value of street lighting by the use of a town

gas supply, were treated in 1863 to a demonstration of electric arc lighting. At night the facade of the Melbourne Post Office was illuminated by electric arc lamps, amazingly the power was supplied by banks of primary cells as a mains supply was not yet available. At that time, dental rooms relied upon natural light from an unobstructed window or, for close work, a 'Telschow reflector'; a spotlight that was fitted with a candle or small oil lamp. The novelty and brilliance of the new arc light tempted some dental manufacturers to supply a Telschow reflector with similar equipment. Due to the need for a large battery of primary cells for the source of power, the loud hissing noise of the arc, the fumes and the constant adjustments necessary, it was not popular.

A street directory of Melbourne of 1857 lists the names of nine dentists, most of who were active in the formation of the Odontological Society of Victoria in 1884 and the development of

the local profession. Amongst the many papers given at society meetings, none has been found dealing with electricity until 1910 when the new x-rays became of great interest to the profession. The local dentists however, most of who had migrated from America or Great Britain, would have been familiar with what was available in the area of electrical equipment from their reading of texts, dental catalogues and manufacturers' monthly magazines. In the late 1800s there would have been many in the larger community associated with working men's clubs, mechanics institutes and the university, who would have gained some practical knowledge of electricity and therefore be anxious to offer their services to aspiring dentists.

Needless to say, parallel with the development of primary cells was that of electric machines that were based directly upon Michael Faraday's work on magnetic induction. A catalogue of surgical, medical and dental supplies of 1860 lists such an appliance as "an electro galvanic surgical battery". This machine was intended for the treatment of neuralgias and did not require a primary cell for it to function. The museum holds an example of a similar type of machine called an 'magneto-electrical machine'. Used by a Collin Street dentist in the late 1890s (fig 1), it is fitted into a locked polished wood box complete with hand held electrodes and exhibits a very high level of Victorian design and craftsmanship. A label pasted into the lid reads:

"Directions: Connect two metallic wires or cords...It is less unpleasant to the patients if wet sponges are placed in the end of the handles

and these applied to the skin as they prevent the tickling sensation. In applying it for toothache, tic-doloureux or neuralgia the operator takes one handle and places his fingers or a sponge over the part affected while the patient holds the other handle...The bearings only must be oiled occasionally. First Prize Medal at London 1862. Silver Medal Paris 1878."

We have no records as to the success or otherwise of this treatment but it may be safe to assume that a young lady surrounded by the handsome gentlemen, as show in the illustration, would have been impressed!

The first essential for a dentist of this period anxious to use electrical equipment, was a steady source of supply. As public mains power would not be available for several years, recourse had to be made to primary cells. A battery of Leclanche cells was suitable for supplying small bursts of energy for short periods but to supply power for a cautery, hot air syringe, or gold foil packer, more active cells of the Daniel (1790–1845), Bunsen (1811–1899), or the new lead acid accumulator of Plante (1834–1889), were essential. It was suggested that 15 or more of the Leclanche type of cell were required for electro therapy (cataphoresis), or 3 to 7 of the Daniel type for the other equipment.

For practical and health reasons, a collection of cells in the form of open glass jars containing corrosive fluids and giving off offensive fumes when active must be stored external to the surgery but close enough for connections to be made easily to the equipment. The first surgery outlets consisted of two 'binding posts', (terminals), marked with their polarity and connected to the external battery by an on-off switch. This arrangement was wall mounted and known formally as 'the switchboard'.

It was suitable for a single instrument but as interests widened and more electrical equipment obtained, a convenient storage place to house it was required and the switchboard became the door of a new piece of surgery furniture 'the wall box'. It was a small cabinet, which in the

more impressive models was fitted with fuses, a rotary voltage selection switch and a 'commutator' or reversing switch for changing polarity. The museum has such a piece of equipment in excellent working condition.

As more electrical equipment on the lines of the following was added to the surgery list, the load became beyond the output of primary cells and recourse had to be made to substituting them with lead-acid accumulators. Initially the accumulators could be charged overnight by using a battery of primary cells but when this could not meet the daily load, the dental supply houses were ready to

solve the problem by offering an in house power station that consisted of a Gardnier gas engine with a dynamo that ran off the town gas supply. The claim was made that the engine would run all day for the cost of a few pence and required little maintenance. The availability of such equipment is an example as to how dentistry kept in step and up to date with advances in engineering and science. **D**



FIG 1. "Magneto" electric machine for nervous diseases. 1880, wood box, brass electrodes, magnet, velvet, 11.0 x 23.0 x 11.5 cm. The Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum, reg. no. 2020.

: The Australian Dental Council & Accreditation :  
The Newly Qualified Dental Practitioner

THE AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL (ADC) has recently developed statements defining the professional attributes and competencies of the newly qualified dentist, dental hygienist, dental therapist and oral health therapist.

Why were the statements developed? What is the role of the ADC in the national registration and accreditation scheme?

Under the provisions of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 the ADC has been appointed as the external accreditation authority for the Dental Board of Australia. In this role the ADC is responsible for a range of accreditation functions, key amongst them being:

- 1. the accreditation of education and training programs for dentists, dental specialists, dental hygienists, dental therapists and oral health therapists
- 2. the assessment of the knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes of overseas qualified dental practitioners who are seeking registration with the Dental Board of Australia to practise in Australia.

To assist in these activities the ADC took the lead in developing statements describing the professional attributes and competencies of newly qualified dental practitioners. These four documents can be found on the ADC's website at <http://www.adc.org.au/adcmajoractivities.html>

: : Professional attributes and competencies of the newly qualified dentist [June 2010]

: : Professional attributes and competencies of the newly qualified dental hygienist [June 2011]

: : Professional attributes and competencies of the newly qualified dental therapist [June 2011]

: : Professional attributes and competencies of the newly qualified oral health therapist [June 2011]

What do the statements say?

The statements were formulated based on the assumption that a dental practitioner in Australia should be a scientifically oriented, technically skilled, socially sensitive, professionally minded practitioner who adheres to high standards of professional conduct and ethics and who can function safely and effectively as a member of the health care system throughout his/her professional career. The documents seek to dispel the perception of "competency" as referring to a set of technical skills, and to present competencies in the context of the holistic interactions between knowledge, skills, attitudes and experience in the hands of a practising oral health clinician.

How were the statements developed?

Overseeing the consultation and preparation of the statements for the ADC was a five person expert working group of educators and clinicians across dentistry, dental hygiene and dental therapy. In preparing the consultation drafts the working group extensively reviewed and drew on a range of materials from Australian and international dental, educational and

accreditation organisations, including those in Canada, Europe, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. The statements were refined through a process of extensive consultation with ADC's key stakeholders who include education providers, professional associations, regulatory authorities in Australia and New Zealand and state, territory and commonwealth government health departments.

Who will use the statements?

The statements will be used by the ADC as a reference in carrying out its key accreditation and assessment functions. It is anticipated that educational institutions seeking to have their education and training programs accredited by the ADC will use the statements in the self-assessment stage of the accreditation process and to assess a program's relevance and effectiveness. The statements do not however prescribe the curriculum of a training program nor is it intended that they be read as a set of learning outcomes. **D**

Find out more by visiting the ADC's website at <http://www.adc.org.au/adcmajoractivities.html>



THIS YEAR THE CPD UNIT at the Melbourne Dental School held two major conference style-lectures at the Bio 21 Institute.

The first was the Contemporary Management of Dental Trauma program held on Friday 20 May in conjunction with GUNZ DENTAL. The full-day lecture program was headed by A/Professor Peter Parashos and provided dentists with an update in dental trauma management. The program presented evidence to confirm the need for regular trauma updates and provided current guidelines for diagnosis and management of various trauma entities as well as giving attending dentists an opportunity to discuss trauma cases presented by the conveners.

We would like to thank all our presenters, Dr. Mark Evans, Dr. Luke Moloney, Dr. Vijay John and A/Professor Peter Parashos for sharing their wealth of knowledge with the attendees.

The course was well received by those in attendance and positive feedback and congratulations offered for an informative and exciting day.

We would like to also thank our kind sponsors at GUNZ DENTAL with special mention to Amanda Hodgins and Alexis Capraro.



The second conference style lecture was PEP TALK 2011 which was held on Friday 22 July. The full day-lecture was kindly supported by STRAUMANN and IVOCLAR VIVADENT. Our leading speakers were from the areas of Periodontics (Dr. Stephen Chen and Dr. Adam Rosenberg), Endodontics (Dr. Mark Evans and Dr. John McNamara) and Prosthodontics (Dr. Chris Evans and Dr. Andrew Dillon). Each of the restorative disciplines discussed and highlighted the very latest in clinical management to assist clinicians with the ever more complex treatment planning dilemmas in their own practices. Dr. Gerry Clausen also participated in a lively final session to help cement these important trends in restorative care and put our speakers to the test in a final Q & A session with unseen cases. Once again we gained a great response to the day and hope to run another PEP Talk session in future years.

Thanks also go out to our session chairs, A/Professor Peter Parashos, A/Professor Ivan Darby and Dr. Roy Judge.

Also our kind sponsors at, STRAUMANN Mr Brandon Krafp and Ms Rikki Pearce and from IVOCLAR VIVADENT Mr Josh Burrows and Ms Fay Kanellos.

Finally, thank you to Sam and Elena from the CPD office who ensured the smooth running of both programs.

2012 Program Update

The 2012 program will be available during the first few weeks of December this year. The program will be mailed to all Victorian registered dentists and will also be uploaded to our web site at [www.dent.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.dent.unimelb.edu.au) We are pleased to be offering a comprehensive program again during 2012 with our most popular courses on offer once more. We also have two new conference style lectures, updates in Paediatric Dentistry and Oral Maxillofacial Surgery. We are also offering a new Oral Medicine lecture program as well as the new lecture and hands-on ITI Education week. There is sure to be something to meet everyone's CPD needs and we look forward to seeing you all throughout the New Year. **D**

A/Professor Roy Judge  
(Director) Continuing Professional Development  
Melbourne Dental School



The Multidisciplinary Needs of Paediatric Dentistry – Are You Keeping Pace?

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO UPDATE

the practitioner in a range of areas that are important in paediatric dentistry.

This all day lecture program is an introduction to a planned hands-on program to be held in 2012. Participants will be introduced to evidence-based information on caries risk assessment and prevention, selection of restorative materials in the child, treatment options for the primary and young permanent pulp, understanding and management of hypomineralized permanent first molars including treatment planning of orthodontic consequences. Treatment planning for dental care of children using general anaesthesia will also be discussed.

MAJOR TOPICS

- :: Enamel infiltration – what's the evidence?
- :: What restorative material should I use and in what circumstances?
- :: What is the Hall technique and should I use it?
- :: New methods for treating the young permanent pulp
- :: Molar hypomineralisation – an update
- :: Treatment planning for the extraction of first permanent molars

- :: Treatment planning for dental care using general anaesthesia

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- At the conclusion of the day participants should be able to:
- :: determine which restorative material is appropriate for individual children
  - :: determine which restorative procedure is appropriate for individual children
  - :: determine how to care for the young permanent pulp

- :: understand enamel hypomineralisation and provide appropriate clinical care
- :: treatment plan for dental treatment when using general anaesthesia

Pre-reading material will be provided due to the broad nature of the topics covered during the program.

COURSE DETAILS

Friday 11 May 2012 9 AM – 5 PM  
Bio21 Institute, 30 Flemington Road Parkville  
Course Number: 2105  
Course Format: Lecture Program  
Presenters: Prof David Manton (Convener), Adj Prof Hanny Calache, Dr. Karen Kan,

Dr. Jim Bokas, Dr. Peter Wong, A/Prof Peter Parashos, Prof Mike Hubbard  
Fee (GST incl): \$400  
Registration Limit: 150  
CPD Credit: 6 hours Scientific CPD

To enrol in this program please contact Sam or Elena at the CPD Unit on (03) 9341 1506 or by fax on (03) 9341 1594 or via email at [cpd-dent@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:cpd-dent@unimelb.edu.au) **D**



# PROFILES



PROFESSOR PERRY BARTLETT graduated from the University of Melbourne's Bachelor of Dental Science in 1970. After a brief locum in Mildura, he returned to the University of Melbourne, where he completed his PhD in

the adult brain had no capacity to alter the wiring that had already been formed. In 1992, however, his group discovered the ability of the adult brain to form new nerve cells, new connections and alter or repair existing connections, showing the brain was changeable and that neuron-producing stem cells did exist in the adult brain.

In 2002, Perry moved north, leaving his WEHI role as Head of the Division of Neurobiology and Development, to set up a new neuroscience institute at the University of Queensland. The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) was officially established in 2003 and is now home to ~300 researchers. Under Perry's Directorship, this group is dedicated to understanding the higher brain functions that control the likes of human behaviours, cognition and self-awareness, as well as how the brain responds to disease and injury. The QBI is now recognised as one of the leading neuroscience institutes in the world.

With his own research group within QBI, Perry has continued his groundbreaking work, showing that it is possible to trigger stem cells to produce new nerve cells in the adult brain: a process

that is thought to be essential for learning and memory. Perry says he believes that by harnessing the brain's capacity for growing new functional cells, there is potential for the development of novel therapeutics to treat major disease such as dementia and depression.

The calibre and significance of Perry's work has led to many prestigious honours, including his election as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and the award of the Australian Research Council Federation Fellowship. The Australian Dental Association (QLD) has also acknowledged his work, inviting him to deliver the 2008 Ernest James Goddard Oration. Although his days of medical research are a far cry from his undergraduate days at the University of Melbourne, Perry would welcome renewed contact with the Dental School alumni.

Transplantation Immunology in 1974 under the supervision of the late Professor Peter Reade. Now with an appetite for research he continued his work overseas. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, researching immunology and cell biology for 4 years, before moving to College University in London where his love for neuroscience was founded.

After 5 years abroad, Perry returned to Melbourne at the Walter Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), where he developed one of the first neuroimmunology laboratories in the world. It was at WEHI that Perry began the process of overturning one of the long-held dogmas of neuroscience - that the adult brain was unchangeable. It was thought, unlike the developing brain,



Dr. Luan Ngo &  
Dr. Cindy Nguyen

DR. CINDY NGUYEN is in the final year of her postgraduate training in the speciality of Periodontics. Having finished her undergraduate dental degree at the University of Melbourne in 2004,

Cindy enjoyed work in both private and public clinics before contemplating further study. In her final year of undergraduate training, Cindy won the GC Corporation prize to be part of The Rotary Australia-Vietnam Dental Health Program for two weeks with a team of Australian dentists and dental assistants. Cindy's work with underprivileged children proved to be a turning point in her life and inspired her to work harder than she had previously before. Cindy graduated as the highest ranked student in her year and received a number of awards, including the John Iliffe Scholarship, ADA (Victorian Branch) Prize for Best Student, The American Society of Dentistry for Children Prize, The Rowden White Prize and Dean's Honours List. After graduation, Cindy worked in both private and public sectors and has been a demonstrator in the undergraduate teaching clinics since 2006 and plans to maintain this connection with the Melbourne Dental School.

Cindy met her husband, Dr. Luan Ngo (then a first year graduate) as a first year dental student, a turning point in both of their lives. A few years

later, Luan enrolled as a PhD candidate examining peptide and protein biomarkers of periodontal disease. Apart from his academic interest, a small part of this decision stemmed from his desire to spend more time with Cindy in a university setting. Luan's interest in Periodontics grew and he was accepted into the periodontics specialist training program. He finished both his PhD and Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Perio) in 2010 and now divides his time between private practice and academia (as convenor of the periodontics program for the BDS/DDS students).

Meanwhile, Cindy started to realise that the most rewarding aspect of her practice was from periodontal treatment. It gave her tremendous satisfaction to see bleeding, inflamed gingiva turn healthy (and odour free). Other more detailed reports of improvement in spousal relations from her patients were sometimes awkward, but encouraging to hear! Some may think that Luan had influenced in her decision but Cindy prefers to think that she has found her own path with a generous and congenial periodontal community sealing her love for this speciality.

Having completed the primary examination for the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons in 2006, Cindy was accepted into the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (Periodontics) program and started in 2009. Her research project examines the antibody response to the red complex bacteria in an untreated chronic periodontitis population. With the help of her supervisors, A/Professor Ivan Darby and A/Professor Neil O'Brien-

Simpson, she hopes to find a pattern of antibody response to the three periodontal pathogens most often indicted with periodontal disease. Cindy's work is part of a larger project which will investigate this cohort's plaque and immune cells to better understand the role of the host response in periodontitis pathogenesis.

## DENT ALUMNI NEWSLETTERAL

Editors: Jennifer Sifonios  
and Louise Murray

Postal Address:  
Melbourne Dental School  
Faculty of Medicine,  
Dentistry and Health Sciences  
The University of Melbourne  
VICTORIA 3010 AUSTRALIA

Street Address:  
Melbourne Dental School  
The University of Melbourne  
4th Floor, 720 Swanston St  
CARLTON 3053 VICTORIA

T: 61 3 9341 1500  
F: 61 3 9341 1599  
E: sifonios@unimelb.edu.au  
www.dent.unimelb.edu.au

Design and production:  
Michael Blythe Communication Arts  
mbca@tpg.com.au