



British Society of Gerodontology

Newsletter Spring 2016

Registered charity No: 1118671

Celebrating Silver: History from our President Heather Lloyd

BSG was formed in 1990 as The Gerodontic Study Group (GSG) by Professor Emeritus Robin Heath, and other leading dentists dedicated to older people's dentistry. The aim was to forward learning, teaching and research in Gerodontology. Robin was Head of Prosthetic Dentistry at The Royal London Hospital Medical College, and had established an innovative MSc in Gerodontics, which attracted many postgraduate students from every branch of dentistry, both within the UK and overseas. Publication of research undertaken as part of this MSc course, contributed significantly to the development of Gerodontology. Robin became inaugural President of the society in 1990, and the first editor of Gerodontology, 'the international journal of dental geriatrics'. The society flourished and grew. In December 1996, a name change was agreed and GSG became BSG : The British Society of Gerodontology. BSG became a charity in 2006. In 2001, with an aim to increase DCP membership and involvement, BSG welcomed its first DCP, Hilary Maynard, to the Executive Committee. In 2016, our President Elect is Rosalyn Davies, a registered DCP and Service Manager. In 2014, a new BSG website was launched along with a new logo

So what will the future hold as we progress over the next twenty-five years? Having been a BSG member since its beginning, I am truly delighted and honored to be the 26th President. One aim for the future, would be to develop closer collaboration with our UK sibling society, The British Society of Disability and Oral Health (BSDH): for BSG and BSDH to work towards synergy for the advancement of Special Care Dentistry for Older People, would be a worthy silver anniversary celebration.



Introducing our President: Heather qualified BDS from Liverpool in 1980, and MSc Gerodontics, London, in 1990 and is a Specialist in Special Care Dentistry. Her clinical career, 35 years in the NHS, has been spent caring for people needing special care.

Within the Community/Salaried Dental Service, Heather progressed to the Clinical Director role in two London Boroughs, in Bromley, and in Barnet. Whilst employed by Barnet PCT, Heather represented dentistry on the multi-agency Safeguarding Board for Barnet, Enfield and Haringey. In 2007, Heather took up the post of Director of Community-based Dentistry at the new Peninsula Dental School in Devon and Cornwall. Now based again in Bromley,

Heather works freelance in the field of Special Care Dentistry and Dental Education.

From 2011 to 2015 Heather has worked as Subject Matter Expert with Healthcare Learning: smile-on developing e-learning programmes entitled 'Vulnerable Patients' and 'Domiciliary Dental Care'

From 2013 to 2015 Heather has been Project Lead, Clinical and Gerodontology Lead for the Health Education England 'Improving Oral Health for Older Persons Initiative' (www.iohopi.co.uk). This project won an 'Innovation in Care' award and was launched at The Houses of Parliament in March 2015

Currently, Heather is an Honorary Senior Lecturer at The University of Kent, and is involved in writing and teaching and research in the field of Gerodontology. Heather has served on the Council of the British Association for the Study of Community Dentistry, BDA committees and is a member of the British Society of Disability and Oral Health, and the British Society of Gerodontology. Heather is a former BSG Membership Secretary.

In her spare time, Heather is a very keen singer and over the years has performed concerts in venues including care homes for older people, Shanghai Arts Centre and Buckingham Palace. Heather is a member of the well known chorus, The Bach Choir, and was introduced to the choir's Patron, HRH Prince Charles, as 'the singing dentist!'

New Role of BSG Chair Appointed to Vicki Jones

At the BSG AGM in Dec 2015, it was agreed by the members that BSG should have a chair to oversee the running of the society and support the BSG committee members and the new presidents. Vicki Jones was voted by the BSG members to be the first chair of BSG and the position will run for 3 years. Vicki has been actively dedicated to BSG and the aims of the society for many years. Vicki was BSG secretary from 2001 until 2011 when she became BSG President and she is also the current chair of the BSG OHP group.

Vicki says *“It is an honour to be elected the first Chair of BSG. It is an exciting time for the society as many new initiatives are being developed across the UK that are focusing on oral health and dental services for older people and BSG will do its best to ensure stakeholder involvement. BSG have been linking in with the third sector raising awareness of the need for good mouthcare and services, and for the past 2 years BSG has been concentrating on working with agencies for people living with dementia and providing education and training for dental teams. The committee works hard for the BSG, giving up their time to support the charity objectives and so I would like to thank them for their commitment. The society is 25 years old this year and BSG is grateful for the continued support from our faithful members – we couldn’t do it without you.”*



vicki.jones@wales.nhs.uk

Vicki is a Consultant in Special Care Dentistry and Clinical Director of the Community Dental Service for Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and is lead clinician for older frail and vulnerable adults. She has spent 30 years providing dental care and services for people living with dementia. She was past president and secretary of the British Society of Gerodontology, chair of the BSG Oral Health Promotion Group and chair of the All Wales Special Interest Group/Special Oral Health Care (SIG). Her publications include co-author of the BSG 2006 *Guidelines for the Development of Standards Oral Health Care for People with Dementia*, *Oral Health Care for Stroke Survivors* (2011), www.gerodontology.com and SIG recommendations for ‘*Oral Nutritional Supplementation and Oral Health*’ (2009) and ‘*Oral Health Care and Dysphagia*. (2014) www.sigwales.org

BSG Committee

President	Heather Lloyd	Committee and Co-opted Members	
BSG Chair	Vicki Jones		Mark Taylor
Immediate Past President	Geraldine Russell		Rebecca Wassall
President Elect	Ros Davies	BSG OHP Chair	Vicki Jones
Honorary Secretary	Paul Zubkowski		Debbie Lewis
Membership Secretary	Liz Mavor	Newsletter Editor	Joanna Millwood
Honorary Treasurer	Bob Baker	Co-opted to OHP	Janet Griffiths
Web Editor	Mike Butler	Co-opted to OHP	Yvonne Rooney
StR/Student rep	Jodie Bustin	Co-opted to OHP	Claire Curtin

Aims of the Society:

- To improve, preserve and protect the oral health of older people.
- To encourage research, publication and dissemination of information
- To encourage and develop undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and training of the dental team
- To promote links with other organisations, professional bodies, carers and the general public
- To provide an advisory body to which questions concerning oral health for older people

Annual Spring Meeting
To be held in beautiful Shrewsbury
Shropshire
Friday 10th June 2016

Celebrating Silver 25 years of BSG



For details and booking please see the society’s website www.gerodontology.com

BSG Ongoing Work and Partnerships

The members of the committee continue to work on a variety of areas and projects. Our president and chair represented BSG at the Public Health England meeting in March at the Department of Health in London. PHE thanked BSG for contributing their knowledge, expertise and ideas for developing the important new commissioning guidance document 'Commissioning Better Oral Health for Vulnerable Older People' due to be published later this year.

As chair of the society, Vicki Jones has collated responses on behalf of the society to the NICE draft guideline consultation – Oral health for adults in care homes and to Royal College Surgeons London for 'Setting the Research Agenda for Dementia and Oral Health 2nd October 2015'. Vicki also presented *Living with dementia and oral health* at BDA Conference, Irish Dental Association and postgraduate lectures Cardiff 2014, and regionally across the UK during 2015. Joanna Millwood gave a presentation on Understanding Dementia and the impact on our patients and their care at BDA Conference May 2015. Geraldine Russell regularly presents on Dental Care for people with Dementia and Dementia friends sessions.

Debbie Lewis, on behalf of BSG worked on - New Strategy on Oral Care for Vulnerable Adults Commissioning Special Care Dentistry published Sept 2015. Yvonne Rooney and Claire Curtin have completed the literature search in preparation for reviewing the Society's Guidelines on Development of local standards for people with Dementia (2006). One of the Dementia Action Alliance pledges is to update this guidance.

Jodie Bustin, BSG StR Rep, highlights some excellent work in the Derbyshire area to improve patient experience and quality of dental care for older patients who have been diagnosed with dementia. Following consultation with stakeholders, a dental advice leaflet, aimed at those with a recent diagnosis of dementia, was produced in collaboration with the Alzheimer's society. It has been disseminated to Memory Cafés and Carer support groups throughout the region. Linked to this, were dementia training and information sessions presented to Dental Core Trainees and General Dental Practices in the area, to encourage dental teams to create 'dementia- friendly' dental environments. This has been well received and those who have completed training will work with our local Alzheimer's Society contacts to develop and pilot a resource that dental practices can use to become dementia friendly. This work was initially supported by the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LPN and will form a key work stream of the emerging Special Care Dentistry Managed Clinical Network (MCN).

Heather Lloyd has recently published an article in Dental Protection's 'Riskwise' journal on Domiciliary Dental Care in care homes. It is a short, practical guide to the pitfalls of domiciliary dentistry and ways to minimise risk when carrying out this work. It is aimed at the whole dental team. Available via www.dentalprotection.org. Issue 49

There are useful resources on the BSG website, we are grateful to Janet Griffiths for compiling these and to Mike Butler for managing the website. The oral health promotion group will be in film production mode again this summer, work is underway to produce a DVD resource for carers and care staff on Looking after the Mouth, for people with Dementia. As always the collaborative work with partnership organisations e.g. Stroke Association, Alzheimer's Society, Dementia Declaration Alliance continues also BSDH, BDA and other Special Interest groups and in dental education.

Save the Date

**The Winter
Conference of BSG**
**Thurs 1st December
2016**
**Brunei Gallery,
SOAS**
**Thornhaugh Street,
Russell Square,
London WC1H 0XG**
'War and Peace'
**contrasting
provision of older
people's oral health
services in countries
at war, and those at
peace**



DAA Dementia
Action Alliance

Please see the Dementia
Declaration Alliance for
the BSG pledges

www.dementiaaction.org.uk

Geraldine Russell, 2014 Past President's Prattle



On December 3rd 2014 at the AGM, after a very successful BSG winter meeting I took over the presidents', newly emblazoned, medal from Mark Taylor with much trepidation. I had already had my first BSG public speaking opportunity in the morning when I presented a Dementia Friends session where my nerves made my presentation style amusing bordering on the hysterical!

My presidential year included a visit to the House of Commons by invitation of Heather Lloyd for the launch of the oral health in care homes educational package. A visit to Manchester to participate in the NICE scoping meeting for oral care in dementia and a very pleasant trip over to my old stamping ground of Belfast for the annual meeting of our sister society, the European College of Gerodontology, which was held in the wonderful Titanic Centre.

The Privilege of being President is being able to choose the subject of the two study days. I was able to invite presentations around Quality of oral care for vulnerable older people in May and Quality matters in Dementia at the winter meeting two areas of dentistry very close to my heart. On a personal, level during the year we cared for my lovely mother in law when her Alzheimer's disease made it impossible for her to live in her own home. A precious time for us all but too short as she passed away in February.

Being president of the BSG can be stressful at times, but having the support of the committee is invaluable, I learnt a lot., became more confident to speak up on important issues around Gerodontology and since then have had several requests to lecture on various aspects including Dementia Friendly dental practice, domiciliary care and safeguarding vulnerable adults. When I handed the New presidential jewel over to Heather last December it was with some relief but mainly gratitude and pride, for having had the opportunity to serve our excellent society.

News from Wales:

After losing to England in the rugby we are picking ourselves up and concentrating on the exciting new developments in Wales. Last February Welsh Government published WHC/2015/001 *Improving the Oral Health of Older People living in Care Homes in Wales* which came with funding. There is an all Wales National Advisory Group to monitor progress of the Welsh Health Circular and a task and finish group that is looking at resources that are evidence based and compiling a 'How To' guide on monitoring of the programme. This new initiative aims to ensure that each home has in place an oral health care policy which includes an Oral Health Risk Assessment, an individual care plan, daily mouthcare monitoring, how to access appropriate resources, training of staff and identification of oral health leads within each home who can be a link person who can also provide cascade training for carers and helping to identify NHS dental services including domiciliary dental care. Each Health Board was tasked to create a multiagency steering group to oversee the programme. Welsh Government also published a very welcome update to the old ministerial letter - WHC/2016/005 on *The Role of the Community Dental Services and services for vulnerable people in Wales* which has strengthened the remit of the CDS and placed the onus on Health Boards to ensure that CDS is supported to provide specialised dental services for vulnerable children and adults. The 1000 Lives plus Mouthcare for Adults in Hospital programme is progressing well and continuing to be introduced in all hospitals in Wales.

Vicki Jones BSG Chair

25 Silver Years of Past Presidents

1990-1991	Prof Robin Heath
1991-1992	Prof Alan Harrison
1992-1993	Arnold Franks
1993-1994	Prof F McCord
1994-1995	Jean Kinsey
1995-1996	Prof Angus Walls
1996-1997	Janice Fiske
1997-1998	Peter Frost
1998-1999	Prof Robin Basker
1999-2000	Jim Newton
2000-2001	John Collis
2001-2002	Denise Mattin
2002-2003	Heather Frenkel
2003-2004	David Davis
2004-2005	Francis Burke
2005-2006	Janet Griffiths
2006-2007	Debbie Lewis
2007-2008	Prof Paul Wright
2008-2009	Nicola Pearson
2009-2010	David Russell
2010-2011	Vicki Jones
2011-2012	Tim Friel
2012-2013	Barbara Hylton
2013-2014	Mark Taylor
2014-2015	Geraldine Russell
2015-2016	Heather Lloyd

Please send your contributions for the Autumn Newsletter to Joanna Millwood by the end of August

newsletter@gerodontology.com

BSG Life Members

Robin Basker David Davis Thelma Edwards Arnold Franks Heather Frenkel
Janet Griffiths Robin Heath Jean Kinsey Barbara Tobias