More complaints
The Dental Complaints Service (DCS) has seen complaints in crease by eight per cent. The DCS logged 1,647 complaints in December 2008. For January - December 2007, the DCS logged 1,617 complaints, an increase of 1.8 per cent over the equivalent period in 2007. The average number of complaints logged since the launch of the DCS in May 2006 is now approximately 32 per week. A breakdown of the type of complaints made revealed that the highest number concerned indi rect coronal restorations. Prosthetics were the second most popular reason for complaint followed by direct coronal restorations. There were no complaints concerning treatment of patients with special needs.

Health award
Pupils at a school in Halifaxes in Yorkshire have won a dental health award. West Vale Primary School won the Cofe Fruit Plus award for its work in promoting good oral health in young children. The school has a policy on health eating and snacking and staff have received training about oral health and prevention of dental diseases. The children are given fruit throughout the day as well as to go home with. They are also given milk at break times and encouraged to take care of their teeth.

Tribune correction
Dental Tribune would like to apologise for a story in its previous issue which stated that The Dental Studio in Peel Arcade in Barnsley was responsible for a chemical leak that started a fire in the Yorkshire town. Dental Tribune would like to make it clear that The Dental Studio had nothing to do with the incident.

Dr Cockcroft condemns survey
The Chief Dental Officer for England has condemned a survey, claiming 3m people have tried DIY dentistry, as ‘ludicrous’.

The survey revealed that DIY techniques included fixing crowns with household glue, using a string tied to a door handle. Around a quarter of those had attempted to remove a tooth with pliers. Three in 10 had tried to whiten their own teeth using household products while 12 per cent had attempted to take a tooth out using a string tied to a door handle.

A week later Sophie was so emaciated, her hair was falling out and they could see her spine through her back. She weighed less than four stone when she died.

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