**News in Brief**

**BAN founder dies**
The founder member of the British Association of Dental Nurses (BAN) has died at the age of 89, Madeleine Lee, who was known as Bunty, suffered a fall before Christmas and had been recovering but died peacefully in her sleep. Ms Lee, who worked at a dental practice in Leyland in Lancashire during the Second World War, was inspired to set up the BAN when an American serviceman told her about a similar association in America. Despite wartime restrictions, Lee immediately set to work travelling around the Britain inviting nurses to join the new BAN. It held its first dental nurse examination, which was resided over by the newly created National Examining Board for Dental Nurses and Assistants, in November 1945. Lee was the first nurse to receive a certificate. She stayed on at the BAN as an honorary life member.

**Most loved dentist**
High Street Dental Practice in West Sussex has been voted the UK’s best loved dentist in a recent nationwide poll. The survey was carried out by the ThelBestOf and saw that practice consistently steed come top in the dental sector for its unbeatable customer service. It also came out 20th Most Loved Business in all categories. Practice owner Jan Sandhu said: Our aim has been to create an environment in which people will feel relaxed and comfortable. We never forget how important it is to sit in a dentist’s chair, so every conceivable care has been taken to make sure they are completely at ease. We have invested in the latest dental technology to give them the ultimate in modern, pain-free dental care. It is fantastic to know that we are getting our customer care so right!

**Dentist ‘accidental death’**
An inquest into the death of a dentist in St Helena, Merseyside, has delivered a verdict of accidental death, Kenyan-born Simon Ayoo, 46, who worked at Newtown Camberbridge Centre, was found dead at his flat in Sale in February 2008. Coroner John Pollard delivered a verdict of accidental death: the cause being positional asphyxia with alcohol intoxication. The inquest at Stockport Magistrates’ Court heard how he had been drinking heavily before his death and when he came home afterwards, it is believed he fell down the stairs.

[www.dental-tribune.co.uk](http://www.dental-tribune.co.uk)

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**Olympic screening**
The IOC has established a screening programme for athletes at the recent Winter Olympics. [page 4]

**Stress survival**
Roger Levin discusses the importance of stress management in the workplace. [pages 12-13]

**Key to success**
Robert Michalk presents a variety of cases using different types of ceramic restorations. [pages 15-17]

**Bon appetit!**
Mhari Coxon details why looking at a patient’s diet can be beneficial to their oral health. [page 22]

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**‘Great news for patients’ – access figures continue to rise says IC**

The number of people able to access NHS dental care has returned to the level it was at before the implementation of the 2006 reforms, according to statistics released by the NHS Information Centre.

The figures show that 28,163,000 patients in England accessed NHS dental care in the 24 months ending 31 December 2009, compared to 28,145,000 in the previous 24 months ending 31 December 2008. There are still a number of challenges remaining. There are still people who would like to see an NHS dentist who cannot do so and primary care trusts have been charged with delivering access to these individuals by March 2011.

The Department of Health must also look beyond those who seek access to reach out to those who need dental care but do not ask for it. Firstly, the Steele Restorative form process must deliver a new preventive, patient-focused contract that helps dentists provide the care they patients deserve.

Despite the increase in the number of patients accessing NHS dentistry in England, the proportion of the population able to do so remains below the level it achieved in March 2006, according to the figures.

In March 2006, 55.8 per cent of the population had visited a dentist in the previous 24 months. At the end of 2009 54.7 per cent had done so in the previous 24 months.

The pledge to provide access to NHS dentistry to all who demand it in England is made in the 2010/11 NHS Operating Framework.