Bad breath
Poor dental hygiene is putting a dampener on romance, according to Dentsply, the mouthwash experts. Their Kiss and Tell study, found that more than a third of respondents said they would avoid someone of the opposite sex with bad breath, while over a quarter would think such a person was generally unclean or unhygienic and one in 10 thought bad breath might be a sign of illness.

More than a quarter had avoided a potential partner because of that person’s bad breath and nearly three quarters said they wouldn’t let a person with bad breath kiss them. While nearly a third had backed away from a snog in the past for that reason.

The Kiss and Tell study also showed that poor oral health hygiene caused bad breath and had teeth in millions of adults in the UK and triggered killer diseases such as stroke, heart disease and birth defects.

Sally resigns
Sally Irvine has resigned from the General Dental Council’s Appointments Committee. This was to avoid any potential conflict of interest with her new role as a member of the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence. Ms Irvine was a lay member of the General Dental Council (GDC) from 1999 until the end of 2008. She chaired the GDC Standards Committee, and has been a member and chair of the GDC Investigating Committee. The process for appointing an interim chair for the Appointments Committee has begun and the process for appointing a replacement chair will begin shortly.

Free treatment
Children from Chernobyl have been breathing in the fresh air of Scotland and receiving free dental treatment at a dental surgery in Ayrshire. Ayr’s Per Anderson practice gave free treatment to the children, who are here on a four-week visit. The group, Chernobyl Children’s Life Line, offer Ukrainian and Belarusian youngsters clear air to breathe – which can add two years to their life expectancy. The Chernobyl nuclear reactor accident in 1986 is considered to be the worst nuclear power plant disaster in history.

Private dentistry booms on
Annual profits in the private dental sector have risen by £6,000, while profits for NHS practices have dropped, according to new figures.

The figures from the National Association of Specialist Dental Accountants (NASDA), show that during 2007/08, annual profits for NHS practices fell from £149,000 to £148,000, while profits rose in the private sector from £111,000 to £117,000.

Costs have gone up and on average a private practice is now spending £250,000 on materials, laboratory bills, wages, direct costs, and overheads while NHS practices spend around £200,000.

Tory talk
Fed up with UDAs, want more preventative dentistry, plus a new contract to boot? It’s time to vote for the Tories says Mike Penning MP. Poor dental hygiene is putting a dampener on romance, according to Dentsply, the mouthwash experts. Their Kiss and Tell study, found that more than a third of respondents said they would avoid someone of the opposite sex with bad breath, while over a quarter would think such a person was generally unclean or unhygienic and one in 10 thought bad breath might be a sign of illness.

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