News in brief

Retention fee
Just over 4,000 dental care professionals (DCPs) have been removed from the General Dental Council register for failing to pay the annual retention fee (ARF); and 651 other DCPs have specifically asked to be removed for reasons including taking a career break or retiring.

Letters informing registrants who have not paid their ARF that they are being removed from the register were sent out on 18 August. Primary Care Trusts, Health Boards, Deanseries and indemnity providers have also been informed.

CERK updated
The book Clinical Examination and Record Keeping: Good Practice Guidelines has been updated in line with the latest guidance from the General Dental Council (GDC), the British Dental Association, the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) (FGDP(UK)).
Where possible, the book includes parallel guidance on Scottish standards regulations. The updated edition, which advises and informs the clinician on the practical and legal aspects of record-keeping, whilst complying with clinical governance is available now.

Dentist website
The UK website, the Cosmetic Dentistry Guide, is now the world’s most visited cosmetic dentistry website, according to Alexa, the web information company. Viewed by more than 140,000 visitors a month and climbing, the website has now overtaken the American website www.mynuscemic.com.
The site includes easy to understand information about cosmetic dental procedures, the latest news and innovations in cosmetic dentistry and ‘Find a local cosmetic dentist’ directory.

Scottish children
The number of Scottish children registered with an NHS dentist has risen to its highest level ever. Statistics show that the number of children aged between three and five registered with a dentist has gone up by nearly 1 per cent in the last two years, to 80 per cent.
Leith has one of the best registration rates in the country, with 91.5 per cent registered with a dentist.
Public health minister Shona Robison claimed it shows that strategies to encourage parents to register their children are working.

www.dental-tribune.co.uk