Swimming dentist
A dentist who swam the English Channel has raised nearly £5,000 for a local cancer charity.
Matthew Gormally, who runs the Lyndhurst Dental Practice in Burnley, with his wife, Leva Jhargroo completed the 21-mile swim from Dover to France in 15 hours and 20 minutes. All money will go to the Christie cancer centre.
Dr Gormally called it ‘an amazing adventure with many highs and lows’.

Equipment donated
An NHS Trust is helping provide dental treatment to disadvantaged people by donating its redundant equipment to hospitals in developing countries.
Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust has donated two full dental suites including dental chairs, X-ray machines and other dental equipment to Aid to Hospitals Worldwide (A2HW).
The Trust’s environment officer, Jeannie Metcalfe-Hall, said: “The equipment was inherited from a dental surgery which the Trust has now moved into. A2HW have helped us to arrange for these suites to be used in West Africa to help provide dental treatment for disadvantaged people who can’t normally access dental care.” It is very rewarding to help those in need and also help reduce our carbon footprint by recycling and reusing products that would otherwise end up in landfill.” A2HW cleans, refurbishes and packs equipment ready for shipping to hospitals, laboratories and schools all over the world.

Dental phobia
Dentists need to advertise that they deal with people having a phobia of dentists, according to a review of dental services in Nottingham.
A review of access to dental care in the city was carried out by Nottingham City Council, the Primary Care Trust, and a member of the City’s Local Involvement Network (LiN).
The review looked at the oral health of people in Nottingham, the availability and quality of NHS dentistry services and what stops people from going to the dentist.
One of the main obstacles is that people believe there is a lack of NHS dentists, although the review found there are no waiting lists in Nottingham and there are plenty of dentists accepting new NHS patients.
The report also recommended that dentists should advertise that they will deal with a phobia of dentists sympathetically.

Charity challenge
Two dental teams raise thousands of pounds for charity in ‘longest, highest & steepest’ challenge

Being Clean
Richard Musgrave discusses the need for a sensible cleaning routine in the practice

Anti-fluoride campaigner in bid to become MP
Mr Justice Millett has given permission for a Judicial Review of the strategic health authority’s (SHA) decision stating that the case raised important questions of public law. However the South Central SHA claims it is confident it followed the law.
The South Central Strategic Health Authority (SCSHA) board's decision was made in February, despite 72 per cent of 10,000 respondents in a public consultation opposing the move.
The judge accepted the SHA’s defence it followed the law, which says it only had to “pay regard” to public opinion, but wants the lawfulness of the approach to be looked at in court.
Government ministers had said that SHAs could only go ahead with fluoridation if they had the residents’ support.
The application for a judicial review has been lodged by a Southampton resident, Geraldine Milner. The legal challenge argues that the SCSHA failed to have regard to the government’s policy that mass fluoridation of drinking water should only go ahead in any particular area if a majority of the local people are in favour of it.

Leigh Day & Co claim in part of the Water Bill that became the Water Act 2002, Lord Warner, the Junior Health Minister, stated in Parliament that it was government policy that ‘no new fluoridation scheme would go ahead without the support of the majority of the local populations determined by local consultations conducted by strategic health authorities’.
The SCSHA said in a statement that the board is ‘satisfied that, based on existing research, water fluoridation is a safe and effective way to tackle tooth decay and that the health benefits outweigh all other arguments against water fluoridation’.
If the SCSHA gets its way, Southampton will be the first place in England to introduce fluoridation since Health Minister Alan Johnson’s ‘fluoridation for all’ proposal in February 2008.
The SHA remains confident that the decision that has been made by the SHA board was carried out in accordance with the relevant legislation laid down by Parliament, and in line with the interests of the health of local people.”

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