Charity fright bite at dental practice

Going to the dentist is already a scary prospect for many, but one Hampshire surgery made sure patients were in for an extra fright this Halloween.

Spooky goings on at the Boyatt Wood Dental Centre, Eastleigh, saw Count Dracula and his team of Mummies, Witches Fairies and Cat Woman pacing up and down the corridors. Peter Saund and his bewitching dental team ensured a trick and treat for their patients as they donned their scariest outfits to end a month of fundraising for Cancer Research UK.

Dr Saund, who lost his wife Veena to ovarian cancer in September 2007 at the tender age of 45, said that this was the second year their campaign raised over £1,400. Last year the theme was Christmas and they raised £906. They have already started planning next year’s campaign, Hawaiian fancy dress, in the summer. ‘It would be great if we could hit £2,000 next year’, said Peter.

Peter Saund and his spooky team

Queen’s awarded for communication

Queen’s University and RNID Northern Ireland have won a national award for their work in ensuring future doctors are better equipped to communicate with deaf patients.

Queen’s School of Medicine, Dentistry and Life Sciences received the Organisational Achievement accolade at the annual Signature Awards for its Specialist Module on Deafness. Hosted by leading deaf charity Signature, recognise those who have made a significant contribution towards achieving a society in which deaf and deafblind people have full access to society.

Second year medical students are offered the specialist module, delivered by the RNID in British Sign Language (BSL). It ensures that future doctors are better equipped to communicate with deaf patients, and includes information on deaf awareness, deaf culture and health care issues for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Following the success of the module, both Queen’s and the RNID now intend to make the module available to all healthcare-related undergraduates at the University, through the development of a website funded by the Higher Education Academy.

For information on the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Life Sciences at Queen’s visit www.qub.ac.uk/schools/mdbs/