The Priors Dental Practice in Penkridge, Staffordshire, was last night named as the second winner of the British Dental Association (BDA) Good Practice Scheme Practice-of-the-Year Award.

The award, open to all members of the BDA Good Practice Scheme, recognises outstanding commitment to patient care by the whole dental team. The winning general dental practice is also a specialist referral centre for orthodontics, endodontics and prosthodontics and is to open a dedicated implant suite offering live implant teaching in 2009.

The 15-strong team received the award at the third annual BDA Honours and Awards Dinner in London, which is supported by the British Dental Trade Association (BDTA). The evening also featured presentations to individuals by the BDA in recognition of service to dentistry and the BDA, along with a range of awards presented by the BDTA and dental care professional associations.

The President of the British Dental Association Gordon Watkins said: ‘This event has become a true celebration of the dental team, giving recognition to the commitment and talent of some very special individuals. We were delighted to be joined by so many friends and colleagues from across dentistry to mark these achievements.

‘The Good Practice Scheme is recognised as a benchmark for excellence with 1,000 practices now in the scheme.’

The honours and awards presented were as follows:

- BDA life membership to Derek Debuse, Adrian Flower, John Hobkirk and Gary Whittle.
- BDA honorary membership to Sir James Carlisle.
- BDA Fellowships to Ralph Davies and Patrick Denning.
- The BDA Certificate of Merit for outstanding contribution and services to the BDA: Barry Donaldson and Rosemary Longhurst.
- Entry on the BDA Roll of Distinction: Mary Newing and Anwar Tappuni.
- The BDTA Award to mark outstanding contribution to the dental industry: John Davis.
- The 2008 British Association of Dental Nurses’ Outstanding Contribution to Dental Nursing Award: Elena Graham.
- The Dental Laboratories Association Significant Achievement Award: David Smith.
- The British Dental Practice Managers’ Association Outstanding Achievement Award: Bridget Crump.
- The Dental Technologists Association Award in recognition of an outstanding contribution to dental technology: John Goodman and Dame Margaret Seward.

The BDA hands out awards to the profession in style