



# blackhills clinic newsletter

## Latest Award for Blackhills Team

The dental publications are full of news of different 'awards' so readers might be pleased to hear of the recent accolade won by the Blackhills team. In May, as part of the Blackhills continuing training, the clinic was closed for three days while all the staff and clinicians attended the National Congress of the Association for Dental Implantology (Paul Stone was a member of the Congress Scientific Committee).

At the Gala Dinner, the theme of 'all things American' ensured most were in fancy dress, but none as eye-catching as the Blackhills Clinic staff, who scooped the coveted prize of 'Most Outrageous Fancy Dress: Team Award'. The deliberate avoidance of all 'industry awards' has been part of the Blackhills philosophy, but perhaps this is one worth bragging about!!



## Blackhills Clinic Website for Your Patients

More patients attend Blackhills having visited our website beforehand and have benefitted from the '**patient information**' pages. With almost 50 individual animations and information sheets (download and print out) covering a range of different treatments available at the clinic, this is a useful way to introduce your patients both to the concept of a Blackhills referral and the types of treatment available.

Why not visit the pages yourself and see what we mean

[www.blackhillsclinic.com](http://www.blackhillsclinic.com)





## Focus on Periodontics

It is well recognised that for the majority of patients, the maintenance of periodontal health can be managed by most GPs (1998 Adult Dental Health Survey). However, periodontal disease is of **insidious onset** and its presence can easily go undetected, especially in less obvious cases such as smokers. The survey also revealed that 60% of Scottish adults had visible plaque on their teeth, with 47% having periodontal pocketing of 4mm or more. This emphasises the need for periodontal screening in general dental practice. Furthermore, litigation for untreated periodontal disease is on the increase and there is a recognised **medico-legal obligation** to diagnose and treat such cases or refer on to specialist care.



Marilou Ciantar is a **specialist periodontist** at Blackhills. She undertook her postgraduate training in periodontology at the Eastman Dental Institute in London, where she subsequently read for a PhD and was also a part-time lecturer in periodontology. Marilou gained specialist periodontist status with the General Dental Council in 2000. Thereafter she trained in oral surgery, gaining specialist oral surgery status in 2007. She is a member of the British Society of Periodontology, International Team for Implantology, European Association of Osseointegration, Association of Dental Implantology and British Dental Association. She has also recently had the great honour of being elected as a Fellow of the International College of Dentists.

Marilou accepts referrals for periodontal treatment, as well as for oral surgery and implant surgery. She is prepared to help establish treatment plans for periodontal patients, where the referring dentist is involved in the 'shared care' of their patients and remains the primary care provider.

Marilou has extensive expertise in all areas of periodontal treatment and can make a significant difference to the long term prognosis for many teeth. Where the maintenance of periodontal health is unlikely to be successful, her experience in determining this can mean the avoidance of unnecessary therapy. This in turn allows for the rapid progression to other restorative options before further bone loss following tooth extraction occurs.

To help introduce herself to dental colleagues, Marilou, is willing to arrange '**Lunch & Learn**' events with practices or groups of practices. During the hour, she will present an overview of current knowledge regarding the aetiology and management of periodontal disease. The emphasis will be on the therapy and shared responsibility between dentist, hygienist and specialist. These informal sessions are eligible for **verifiable CPD** points for dentists and DCPs (certificates provided).



'Guided Tissue Regeneration'



## Blackhills Education Programme

To provide local, relevant, verifiable CPD for **all members of the dental team**, Blackhills will soon be introducing its Education Programme for the autumn and winter: Topics that we hope to cover with both our own specialists as well as 'guest speakers' include:

### DGP Programme

1. CPD - What, why, how
2. Dental implants for your patients?
3. Periodontal therapy for DGPs
4. Posture essentials and stress management
5. Smoking cessation - your role



### Dental Practice Managers Programme

1. Employment law
2. Successful marketing
3. British Dental Practice Managers Association
4. Group session – setting up practice protocols that actually work



### Dentist Programme

1. Implant dentistry – current concepts and General Dental Practice involvement
2. Periodontal Therapy – current concepts and General Dental Practice involvement.
3. TMJ and myofascial pain management in General Dental Practice.
4. Cone Beam digital volumetric CT imaging – a role for this new technology in General Dental Practice (hands-on image manipulation)
5. Piezoelectric surgery – applications and techniques in General Dental Practice (hands-on surgery)
6. Socket preservation following tooth extraction – maintaining the soft tissue support for bridge pontics, dentures and implants (hands-on)

To help with the planning and logistics of this ambitious programme, please discuss with your colleagues and staff which topics you would like to attend, and then contact Trudie to **register your interest**. Most of the programmes will be for 1 – 2 hours in the evenings, at Blackhills Clinic. There will be **no charge** for the majority of the sessions and numbers will be restricted by the size of our waiting room (early arrivals get the most comfy seats). Each session will count as **verifiable CPD** and attendees will receive a certificate of attendance. Light refreshments will be available on arrival.

## Increasing Referrals to Blackhills Specialists

Despite the current economic crisis, Trudie Imrie, our clinic manager recently reported the continued increase in numbers of referrals for all areas of dental activity within the clinic. Many thanks to all our referrers (all 250 of you!)

To reflect the financial situation faced by most of us, prices increased have been limited, with many remaining unchanged.

Don't forget you can refer online at [www.blackhillsclinic.com](http://www.blackhillsclinic.com) – click the 'Patient Referral' button and use the password '*blackhills*'.



**For more information contact Trudie (see below)**

## Blackhills Referral Boxes

Many of you will have already received these compact A5 boxes containing literature, referral forms and patient leaflets. Over 200 have been prepared and we hope that you will find the contents useful. For 'top ups' of the various items, **please contact Trudie (see below)**

## Contacting Blackhills Clinic

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