



The Dental Practice

General, Cosmetic & Implant Dentistry

The Burwood Bite

Newsletter 1 Spring
2000

In December 1984 I began what has been an incredible 15 years. In that time I have been privileged to earn a living doing something I truly love. Many people have asked me over the years how anybody could enjoy looking into mouths all day! OK I'll admit it, you have to be a little weird to be a dentist, but I could just not imagine doing anything else. If we consider advances in every day life, it is quite amazing how much the world has changed in 15 years. Equally dentistry has gone ahead in leaps and bounds, and being involved in what has really been a revolution is exciting to say the least. Of course although we are never going to be the most popular people in the world, I cannot help but notice how much more positive people are about looking after their smile.

As exciting as it is to be a part of this dental revolution, the real joy of this job are the people behind the mouths. It is humbling that there are so many people who trust us to look after them. I can assure you that this loyalty is appreciated more than you could imagine. As the principal of the practice it is also great to see how much all of my staff enjoy these relationships as well.

So why has The Dental Practice produced its first Newsletter? Well, it is really a chance for us to share our enthusiasm for dentistry and our patients with as many people as possible and hopefully providing information that may just make life a little better. Our ulterior motive is that if you are happy with us you will share our message. The greatest compliment we can receive is when you recommend us to your family and friends.

Dr Glenn Willey, Principal Dentist

Who's Who

Dr Glenn Willey – Principal Dentist

Dr Leon Gershenfeld – Associate Dentist

Trisha McCagh – Hygienist

Deborah Young – Practice Manager

Nicole Hatcliff – Scheduling Co-ordinator

Leah Maclean – Clinical Co-ordinator

Johanna Haavisto – Scheduling Co-ordinator

Johanna Campos – Dental Assistant

Sharon Simpson – Dental Assistant

Maree Rodger – Dental Assistant

Rikki Pearce – Dental Assistant

Ladelle Lorenzo – Dental Assistant

Are your teeth killing you?

Dr Glenn Willey, Principal Dentist

Have I got your attention?

I needed something a little sensational to keep you interested. Recent research has uncovered the link between heart disease, stroke and gum disease which is sensational to say the least.

For some years we have been aware that people with gum disease seemed to be more prone to heart attack and stroke, but up until recently we did not understand why. Researchers have now found that this is because those bacteria that cause gum infection can find their way into the blood stream and cause fatty deposits on arterial walls to break down. These in turn can lodge in smaller vessels around the heart and in the brain and cause potentially fatal results.

Gum (or periodontal) disease is both preventable and treatable. It is a chronic infection of the teeth's supporting structures caused by the bacteria that live in plaque. Almost all of us are susceptible and it can often begin as early as age 7 or 8. Early symptoms include bleeding gums, bad breath and deterioration of taste and can lead to loosening and eventual loss of all the teeth.

Our preferred role in preventing these terrible things is identify those people who are most susceptible as early as possible and put in place a continuing care program that will hopefully stop those nasty germs in their tracks! If you are unlucky enough to be past the prevention stage we can also treat the

disease with great success in many cases, although for some, removing hopeless teeth and replacing them with tooth implants is certainly better than wearing dentures as in the past.

The bad thing about gum disease is that drugs cannot cure it and constant attention for a lifetime is essential. This involves proper brushing and flossing and professional cleaning at regular intervals. This can only be done with the assistance of your dental team.

The message is clear and simple. Going to the dentist regularly can save your life as well as your teeth! This is only one of the countless benefits of regular dental visits so if you have not seen us recently, why not give us a ring today to make an appointment?

Like it or not, we live in an aesthetically conscious society. This is particularly true in the entertainment industry. However not all beautiful people were born that way. Many have helped nature along by taking advantage of the latest developments in cosmetic dentistry. Self-improvement is no longer the exclusive domain of the rich and famous. Taking steps to improve your appearance today is considered an investment in your health and well being.

Because the mouth is one of the focal points of the face, it should come as no surprise that the smile plays a major role in how we perceive ourselves as well as the impressions we make on other people. Aesthetic Dentistry primarily offers a range of dental treatment options which significantly improve a patients appearance and therefore wellbeing.

The first step involves thorough analysis of a person's smile as a whole. If you are like most people, you probably don't see what is in the back part of your mouth. But others see it every day when you laugh or speak. That is why it is important to evaluate every part that shows not just those that are most apparent. Often patients are unhappy with the appearance of their smile but are unsure why. The reason may be a combination of factors. For example, some teeth may be too short or too long. Some teeth may have moved and are not in harmony with the smile. A smile analysis may reveal any such difference and with proper treatment dramatic improvements in a patients appearance can be achieved. Often a computer-aided photograph of the smile is taken using a camera and study models are analysed for the best result. Aesthetic improvements can be first demonstrated on a model to ensure patient satisfaction prior to commencement of work in the mouth.

A range of treatment options is available to treat various problems. These include:

Porcelain Laminate Veneers:

Thin semi-translucent "shells" of porcelain permanently bonded to your teeth. .

Porcelain Crowns:

To strengthen the tooth and provide an improved aesthetic result.

White Fillings:

Many patients prefer to have a white filling placed in their mouth primarily for aesthetic reasons.

For further information on treatment options available in your case, please contact our surgery. Our reception staff will be more than happy to address any questions that you may have.

Staff Profile

Trisha McCagh - Dental Hygienist

In this newsletter we have detailed some of the benefits of regular dental check ups. For these to be effective we need to be providing the very best care.

Trisha has been in charge of our Continuing Care Program for the last two years. She graduated from Curtin University, Perth, where she qualified as a Dental Therapist and Dental Hygienist. Following graduation Trisha has worked in some of the best practices in Sydney and Perth bringing to The Dental Practice a wealth of experience and expertise.

Dental Hygienists are specialists in all aspects of preventive dentistry including cleaning, x-rays, fluorides, fissure sealing, gum therapy to name but a few. Having a specialist in these areas means that a much higher standard of care can be given. Whilst some patients have commented that they miss that extra contact with their dentist, we have found that our preventive results have improved spectacularly for most patients that have been seen in this way for 18 months or more. If you have any questions about your continuing care please speak to your dentist or Trisha at your next visit.



Congratulations !

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a few of our patients that have recently had a happy event or success. .

Sylvana & Patrick Grech, Steve & Judy Ford, Seda & Zeljko Jurin - all had their first child and all had beautiful baby girls.

Linda Vanderweegan and her husband had twins! a beautiful baby boy and baby girl.



Donna and Patrick Bourke had their second child

Jayne Crawley recently completed many years of university and is now qualified as a clinical psychologist and is enjoying a new job in Queensland. Her and her family are continuing to commute from Queensland for their dental treatment.

Slim Dusty has just released his 100th album

Peter Freedman received an award for exporting microphones to the U.S.A.

Margret Hazetic & Eric Ben David tied the knot during May

Emma Poor & Paul Ryan tied the knot during July

If you have had a recent event that we have missed in the above list we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your families also.



We say goodbye to an old friend.

Recently we have heard of the passing of one our most special patients. As far as we can tell Mr Edwin Skinner has barely missed a 6 month visit since the early forties when he began seeing my earliest predecessor Mr. McDonald. A true gentleman, he would always take the time to tell an interesting yarn of years gone by and give a friendly smile. My favourite was that in the early days, he would sneak in to the paddock next door where the local milkman kept his horses to collect manure, which he subsequently used to pay his dental bills. Mr. McDonald apparently grew champion roses and was grateful for the assistance. This irony of the true value of dental care I am sure will stay with me forever!

What I will remember most, however was the loyalty of a man who lived in the Eastern Suburbs and travelled to Burwood to the same dental practice for almost his whole life. For all those who have had the privilege of treating him, this is truly remarkable. He will be sadly missed.

Glenn Willey



Have you
visited
our
web site ?

www.thedentalpractice.com.au