



**Interviewee:** Dolly Terfus

**Profession/ Specialities:** Dental technician

**Date of the Interview:** 2 June 2011

**Location of interview:** BDA Headquarters

**Interviewer:** Stephen Simmons

**Recording equipment used:** Zoom H4N Recorder, Rode Lavalier Microphones, Beyer M58 Microphones

**Number of recordings:** 6

**Total length of recording:** 60 minutes

**Access/ copyright restrictions:** Copyright held by BDA

### **Summary of interview**

01 - Use of vulcanite, nylon, acrylic, stainless steel, cobalt chrome and gold materials in denture construction. Learning to cast gold and attendant difficulties. Asbestos risk. Use of bellows. Injection moulding.

02 - Shellac special trays. Methods of acquiring clients from among dentists. Lab charges pre- and post 1948 (effect of start of NHS). Problems of cash flow. Long working relationships with some dental practices.

03 - Renting lab premises from Church and school - how rental deals were sealed with a handshake. Discussion on very long working hours experienced in the lab. Anecdote case of 3 year old girl needing a full upper and lower denture. Many health hazards faced by dental technicians – including repetitive strain injury.

04 - Use of articulators and occlusion. Computer milling. Use of gloves and masks. Ventilation - via open window. Pleasure from artistic and rewarding work.

05 - Views on Denturism. Advice to young technicians starting out.