



Interviewee: Alan Mayhew and Ed Attenborough

Profession/ Specialities: Alan Mayhew – oral surgeon, Ed Attenborough -
Managing Director of Attenborough Dental

Date of the Interview: 30 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: 2

Total length of recording: 46 minutes 2 seconds

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Summary of interview

01 – Mayhew – training at Guy's in 1942. Motivations to go into dentistry.

Attenborough – father's route into dentistry

Comment on degrees available

Mayhew – use of a pantograph. Availability of porcelain teeth in the 1940s.

Mayhew and Attenborough – introduction and use of polymethyl methacrylate
(acrylic resin)

Mayhew – life as a student during WWII. Studying and living arrangements at
Sherwood Park, experiences in the Fire Service.

Attenborough – Father's experiences in WWII.

Mayhew - taking of exams during WWII. Vote on the introduction of women into the
course. Story of a bomb exploding nearby during an exam.

Attenborough – father's career options on graduation

Mayhew – experiences as a student visiting East Grinstead, story of observing Sir
William Kelsey Fry. Experiences in RAF during National Service. Working at

Rooksdown House. Experiences working for private practice in Harley Street and decision to go into hospital work. Establishing the Embryo Club.

02 – Mayhew and Attenborough – discussion of photograph Embryo Club reunion 2009.

Mayhew – mention on the use of treadle drills.

Mayhew and Attenborough- discussion of photograph preliminary clinical class in operative dentistry, September 1945.

Mayhew and Attenborough - discussion of photograph House Officers at Guy's, 1947.

Attenborough – history of Attenborough Dental Laboratory. Introduction and use of porcelain jacket crowns.

Mayhew – discussion of greatest professional achievement – working at Rooksdown House and formation of Rooksdown club.

Mayhew and Attenborough – advice to dentists and dental technicians starting their careers. Comment on growth of oral surgery.

Attenborough – registration of dental technicians.