

BDA

Northern Ireland

BDA Northern Ireland

BRANCH PROGRAMME 2026



Branch President 2026
Kathryn McKenna

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A message from the BDA NI Branch President



**Kathryn
McKenna**

Branch
President 2026

It is an honour to serve as Northern Ireland President 2026. Having qualified from Queens University in 2005, my career has taken me through general dental practice, the community dental service, and hospital-based care. I am now privileged to work as a Consultant in Special Care Dentistry – a specialty that embodies the teamwork and integration at the heart of this year’s theme: “Collaborative Care in Dentistry – Bridging the Gap between Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Care.” While the worlds of general practice, community dental services, and hospital dentistry may at times appear distinct, my experience working across these sectors and through involvement in BDA craft committees has reaffirmed that our common purpose and shared challenges far outweigh any differences. I hope the 2026 programme celebrates these shared values and challenges, reflecting the spirit of collaboration we need more than ever.

Across every sector, we depend on one another to provide safe and effective care for our patients. This year’s Branch programme has been designed to celebrate that collaboration, and deepen the sense of professional unity, offering high-quality CPD that is both clinically relevant and practically useful for colleagues in every field of practice.

We open with our Installation Dinner on Friday 30th January, followed by an engaging series of scientific evenings covering a wide range of topics, including oral mucosal conditions, radiology update, orthodontics, composite bonding,

the management of medically compromised patients, and practical endodontics. The “Hot Topic” sessions will keep members up to date on new TMD guidance, periodontal treatment trends, restorative referral pathways, the restorative management of patients with head and neck cancer, and an important update from the Chief Dental Officer on the evolving GDS contract and amalgam use.

Our social calendar remains an essential part of the Branch year, with the return of the popular Taste & Tour Belfast event in Spring and our Autumn dinner at Deanes at Queens, featuring guest speaker Jamie Toole on “Living in the Age of AI.” Together with the regular golfing events and Young Dentist events, these occasions strengthen the friendships and professional networks that define our Branch community.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our Branch Council Officers and the BDA Northern Ireland Office for their invaluable guidance and support. Serving as President-Elect has given me a deeper appreciation of the dedication and countless hours that go into ensuring the Branch Council remains vibrant and strong. I also extend my thanks to our sponsors for their continued generosity.

I warmly encourage colleagues from all sectors – general practice, community, and hospital services – to join us throughout the year. Together, we can continue to build the bridges that link our profession, support one another through ongoing challenges, and ensure that dentistry in Northern Ireland has a strong and sustainable future to ensure our patients receive the very best in collaborative dental care.

I look forward to welcoming you to our events throughout 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn McKenna".

Kathryn McKenna

BDA NI Branch President 2026

Northern Ireland Branch - Council Officers 2026



Kathryn McKenna
BDA NI Branch
President 2026



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Derek Manson
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Northern Ireland Branch Council Officers 2026

Catherina Beatty

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Danielle Magee

Paul Brennan

Richard Graham

Peter Ramsay-Baggs

Martin Curran

Edel Hughes

BDA NI Branch member elected to
BDA Principal Executive Committee (PEC)

Peter Crooks

Northern Ireland Office Staff



Tristen Kelso
BDA Northern
Ireland Director
tristen.kelso@bda.org



Julie Williams-Nash
Senior Policy Advisor
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A message from the BDA Northern Ireland Director



Tristen Kelso

BDA NI Director

I want to wish Kathryn every success for her 2026 Presidential year, taking over the reins from Derek Manson.

It really is testament to the dedication of our NI Branch Council officers that six of the top ten most booked BDA Branch and Section events over the past year were Northern Ireland Branch events.

It's also fitting that the primary focus of BDA during 2026-28 will be on Membership. We want to see our membership grow, and key to this is that every dentist recognises the immense value of everything that BDA does on their behalf. That work can only continue with the valued support of our members.

That same level of dedication is also reflected in the work of our BDA NI committees as they represent and advocate on behalf of all dentists in Northern Ireland.

Over the past twelve months our Community Dentists Committee has successfully highlighted key workforce issues impacting on the CDS, culminating in a BDA CDS Workforce Roundtable event in September.

Our Dental Practice Committee has fought vociferously to highlight the impact of increased National Insurance employer contributions on practices. Following a joint campaign with FPS colleagues, we are the only part of the UK where we succeeded in securing £2.5m of recurrent funding towards mitigating increased NI costs.

We've also secured a Cost of Service Review which is being undertaken by Prof. Ciaran O'Neill and will report in March to inform the future shape of General Dental Services here; and, following intense political lobbying by BDA, including two Assembly debates and multiple Health Committee briefings we secured £7m additional funding into General Dental Services.

Of course, much more needs to be done to secure adequate investment to stabilise GDS.

Our very active NI Hospital Dental Services Forum has also highlighted critical HDS workforce gaps directly to key decision-makers and has advocated on pay alongside BMA colleagues.

We've inputted into a review of Dental Nurse Training and gained recognition of both City and Guilds and NEBDN under the NI Apprenticeship scheme; we've engaged directly with the Health Minister on wider dental reform and investment, on student finance issues, DDRB and much more; and NI Council has deepened its local engagement with key bodies including our regulators on pertinent issues such as dental tourism.

We are pleased that a newly constituted 'Central Dental Advisory Committee' (CDAC) will meet in January to give strategic direction on issues connected with provision of dental services across NI. We commend our CDO for taking this important step.

2025 also saw Roz McMullan being honoured with an OBE for services to Mental Health and Wellbeing in the dentistry profession in Northern Ireland. Yet again, proof if needed of the immense commitment your BDA Northern Ireland representatives make on behalf of their colleagues and profession, every single day.

In 2026, I'm confident that here in Northern Ireland dentists will continue to step forward to serve and to lead on behalf of their colleagues and their profession in the name of BDA.

That's how we will move dentistry forward, and how we will grow our membership.

BDA. 'Together, we're stronger'.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tristen Kelso". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tristen Kelso

BDA Northern Ireland Director



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CPD Branch Programme FAQs

Who can attend?

BDA NI Branch events are open to both members and non-members.

Members - **Free**

Students - **Free**

Non-members - **£45***

DCPs - **£45***

* Unless otherwise stated

If you would like to benefit from free CPD lectures, please visit bda.org/join

Venue information



Branch CPD events will be held in the **Isdell Courtyard in Riddell Hall, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5EE**, unless otherwise stated.



The original external courtyard of Riddell Hall has been enclosed by a glass roof and is now a beautiful multifunctional space, ideal for lectures, conferences and other events.

Booking Branch events

All Branch events must now be booked online in advance. Members should visit bda.org/bse to book using your BDA website ID.

Just sign in at the event. After the event you will receive a link to your BDA certificate portal where you can store and download any of your BDA event certificates.

CPD allowance and tracking

Events meet the educational criteria set by the GDC for verifiable CPD, unless otherwise stated, and are certified by the BDA. CPD usually equates to 2¼ hours.

Running order

18:45 Registration and exhibition
19:00 'Hot Topic' Lecture
19:45 Refreshments and exhibition
20:00 Lecture
21:15 Q&A
21:30 Close

Feedback

Anonymised feedback forms are available at the end of each event. Please let us know how we can work to improve our events.

Sponsors

Sponsors are vital to our CPD programme's success. Please take the time to speak with sponsors at events and add value to your CPD experience.

Contact

If you have any questions about booking or need more information, contact branchsectionevents@bda.org or call **0207 563 4590**.



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February CPD Event: Applied Oral Medicine for Everyday Practice

Managing Potentially Malignant Oral lesions (PMOL's): "Catcher in the Rye or To Kill a Mockingbird"



Stephen Adair

Clinical Director for Dentistry and Consultant/Senior Lecturer in Oral Medicine. Dual qualified in Dentistry and Medicine (Dundee). Lead for a final year Dental Outreach for the University of Dundee. Entered Specialist Training in Liverpool (2014) gaining CCST in Oral Medicine in February 2018. Interests in Law and Ethics and

teaching having completed both Pg Cert and GDL examinations. Sits on the Specialty Advisory Boards for Oral Surgery / Oral Medicine and MFDS. Recently appointed as a member of the Dental Council for RCS Edinburgh.

Aim:

- Provide a review of PMOL's
- Understand the referral pathways for these conditions in hospital
- Improve referral practice from primary care
- Review some unusual cases and help provide a template in how to manage such cases presenting to primary care

Learning objectives:

- Know the range of conditions that constitute Potentially Malignant Oral lesions (PMOL's)
- Understand the referral pathway into Secondary and Tertiary Care for these lesions
- Provide the appropriate information to allow accurate triage and onward management for these patients
- Recognise unusual case presentations and how to deal with these and refer on appropriately

HOT TOPIC: Temporomandibular Joint Disorders: Pain, Pathways and Progress



Conor O'Gorman

Conor O'Gorman is a Specialty Registrar in Oral Medicine at Belfast Health & Social Care Trust. He earned his Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours (BDS Hons) from the University of Manchester in 2014 and became a Member of Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal

College of Physicians & Surgeons (MFDS RCPS Glasgow) in 2016. He is the current Fellows in Training Representative for the British and Irish Society of Oral Medicine.

Aim:

To provide an update on management of temporomandibular joint disorders following recent guidelines from the Royal College Faculty of Dental Surgery

Learning objectives:

- Aetiology and presentation of TMD
- Assessment, diagnosis and imaging techniques
- Conservative, psychological and pharmacological management of TMD

Tuesday 24 February 2026

Time: 18:45 – 21:30

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddel Hall

CPD 2 ¼ hours

Development outcomes: (A) (B) (C) (D)

BDA members: Free

Students: Free

Non-members: £45

DCPs: £45

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March CPD Event: Beneath the Surface: Radiology and Periodontal Health in Focus

Dental Radiology Across the Healthcare Framework



Orlagh McPolin

Orlagh graduated from Queen's University Belfast in 2016. Following completion of Dental Foundation Training and a period working in hospital-based dental posts, Orlagh undertook specialist training in Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology (DMFR)

across Scotland. Orlagh is a Dental and Maxillofacial Radiologist with a particular interest in cone beam CT (CBCT) and advanced head and neck imaging. Orlagh is committed to supporting diagnostic accuracy, improving radiology literacy across all levels of dental care and advancing the safe, effective use of radiology in clinical practice.

Aim:

Explore the role and value of dental radiology within primary, secondary, and tertiary care settings. It will provide an overview of the dynamic specialty, how it integrates with and enhances care delivery through diagnostic pathways, from dental practice to hospital based teams.

Learning objectives:

- Describe the scope and applications of dental radiology across primary, secondary and tertiary care within the UK healthcare system.
- Identify how dental radiological expertise enhances diagnostic accuracy, referral quality and treatment planning at different levels of care
- Evaluate the benefits and limitations of current and emerging technologies in dental radiology, including CBCT, digital imaging and artificial intelligence tools
- Apply knowledge of appropriate imaging referral and interpretation to support collaborative care across general practice and specialist services.
- Introduce the Mental Health in Dentistry Framework and concept of a Mental Wellness Lead

HOT TOPIC:

Getting long in the tooth?



Joanne Mawhinney

Joanne Mawhinney received her dental degree from Trinity College Dublin in 2002. She completed vocational training in Northern Ireland and worked as a Senior House Officer in Oral Surgery for two years. She worked as an associate in general dental practice before taking up a Staff Grade position in the Periodontal

Department in the School of Dentistry. She completed specialist training in Periodontics in Trinity College Dublin in 2012 and now works solely in private practice at Greenwood Specialist Dental Clinic. During her career she has been involved in undergraduate teaching, continuing professional education events and study groups

Aim:

To discuss diagnosis of periodontitis in general dental practice To highlight assessment of risk factors and modification of behaviour as part of comprehensive periodontal treatment

Learning objectives:

- Recognise the need for periodontal screening for all patients and understand when to use full periodontal assessment
- Appreciate the role of risk factors in periodontitis

Thursday 26 March 2026

Time: 18:45 – 21:30

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddell Hall

CPD 2 ½ hours

Development outcomes:



BDA members: Free

Students: Free

Non-members: £45

DCPs: £45

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April CPD Event: Optimising Outcomes in Developing Dentitions

Making the right choice: An Informed Look at Orthodontic Treatment



Karl Grimes

Karl is a Consultant Orthodontist working in the SH5CT in Northern Ireland. He also works in specialist practice. He completed his speciality training at the Royal London Hospital in 2018. During this time, he successfully passed the Membership in Orthodontics examination and completed

his Doctorate through Queen Mary, University of London. He undertook his Post-CCST training in Northern Ireland gaining the Fellowship in Dental Surgery in Orthodontics. In 2023, he completed a Masters in Clinical Education through Queens University Belfast and he is currently Director of the Orthodontic Therapy training course in Northern Ireland.

Aim:

- Provide an overview of common orthodontic problems and when to refer to a specialist.
- Describe the various treatment options which are available to the specialist.
- Explore the future of orthodontics with innovations in treatment options.

Learning objectives:

- To have knowledge and understand common orthodontic problems which present to the dental team
- Be familiar of what and when to refer to a specialist
- Understand the various orthodontic treatment options which are available to the specialist
- The future of orthodontics with innovations in treatment options

HOT TOPIC: Molar Incisor Hypomineralisation: Theory to Practice



Linda Jennett

Linda is a specialist in Paediatric Dentistry who graduated with honours from Queen's University Belfast in 2006. She completed Senior House Officer roles in Oral Surgery, Orthodontics, Restorative Dentistry, and Paediatric Dentistry. She subsequently worked in the

paediatric dental department and completed her specialist training in 2018. She has been actively involved in undergraduate and postgraduate dental education and has gained her Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Education. Since 2019, she has worked as a paediatric specialist in private practice, initially in the Republic of Ireland and more recently in Northern Ireland.

Aim:

An update on Molar Incisor Hypomineralisation (MIH): prevalence, aetiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis, and management tips for young patients.

Learning objectives:

- Appreciate MIH prevalence and causes
- Identify clinical features
- Ensure accurate diagnosis
- Deliver preventative, restorative, and aesthetic care.

Tuesday 21 April 2026

Time: 18:45 – 21:30

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddel Hall

CPD 2 ½ hours

Development outcomes:



BDA members: **Free**

Students: **Free**

Non-members: **£45**

DCPs: **£45**

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BDA NI Branch Presidents

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1924	W.G. Keys	1979	W.B.G. Barber
1925	H.H. Martin	1980	B.D. Douglas
1926	W.M. Swan	1981	M. O'Farrell
1927	J. Malone	1982	A. Richardson
1928	D.S. Rankin	1983	B.M. Tweedie
1929	H. McCormick	1984	P.E. Davey
1930	G.F. Watson	1985	J.H. Green
1931	C.H. McComb	1986	Prof. I.C. Benington* (2002)
1932	S.A. Deans	1987	E.Curry
1933	W.M. Hunter	1988	J. Williamson
1934	A.E.S. Austin	1989	W.F. Harbison
1935	A.M. Henderson	1990	Dr. J.D. Eccles
1936	H. Elwood*(1938)	1991	R.P. Tennant
1937	H.T.A. McKeag	1992	R.B. Linehan
1938	M. Kennedy	1993	F. Shields
1939	J. Lyons	1994	P. Waters
1943	W.M. Swan	1995	R. Kendrick
1944	Lt. Col J. Mc L Foreman	1996	W. Corry
1946	J.C. Smyth* (1965)	1997	D. Wilson
1948	J. McBride	1998	J.T. Black
1949	W.D. Martin	1999	R. McMullan* (2019)
1950	R.G. Chambers	2000	D. Macaulay
1951	Prof. P.J. Stoy	2001	D. McLeod
1952	D.A.G. Dunn	2002	T. Gilmore
1953	J.A. Smyth	2003	D. Russell
1954	H. McCullough	2004	T.J. Clifford
1955	A.C. Holden	2005	W.K. Graham
1956	Violet G. Rattie	2006	K. McClintock
1957	J.A. Clarke	2007	C.G. Cowan
1958	J.M. Colgan	2008	M. McElholm
1959	Col.B.E. Gentleman	2009	N. Farmer
1960	W.G. Lyttle	2010	R. Graham* (2024)
1961	R.C. Chapman	2011	E. Livingston
1962	S.M. McCullough	2012	B. McGonigle* (2013)
1963	J.F. Hamilton	2013	S. Killough
1964	D.P. Boyle	2014	P. Ramsay-Baggs
1965	V.A. Hewitt	2015	P.S.D Henderson
1966	R.J. Smith	2016	A. Stevens
1967	T.H. Dunseith	2017	Prof. D. Hussey
1968	K.J. Johnston	2018	M.W. Curran
1969	C. McKay	2019	C. Christie
1970	W.M. McCarthy	2020	P. Brennan
1971	W.H. Morrow* (1978)	2021	P. Brennan
1972	F.L. Stuart	2022	P. Crooks
1973	A.L. Colgan	2023	P. McLorinan
1974	R.M. McLeod	2024	Prof. G. McKenna
1975	J.E. Johnston	2025	D. Manson
1976	G.S. Hobson		
1977	Prof. C.P. Adams		

*National President

BDA Northern Ireland and National Committees

Democracy is at the heart of the BDA Northern Ireland Committees. Members are elected triennially to represent their peers and colleagues across Northern Ireland. They negotiate, lobby and develop policy on your behalf. They provide an important link, sharing knowledge and experience of front-line care to help inform these decision-making processes.

Northern Ireland Branch Council

President, elected officers and members work to create and deliver local high quality CPD lectures and dedicated social events for BDA members. It provides a fantastic opportunity to network, learn and develop professionally.

Northern Ireland Community Dentists Committee

represents dentists employed in community dental services across Northern Ireland. It is a decision making, craft committee which negotiates on contractual terms and conditions and lobbies on issues of importance to Community Dentistry.

Northern Ireland Council has representation from the chairs of NI GDS, CDS and HDS committees and Branch President, and feeds member issues to UK Council, ensuring they are heard at the highest BDA level. They discuss strategic cross-cutting issues impacting on dentistry in Northern Ireland such as dental amalgam, oral health, education and workforce issues

Northern Ireland Dental Practice Committee

represents dentists working in general practice across Northern Ireland. It is a decision-making, craft committee recognised by government to negotiate on contractual and policy issues on behalf of General Dental Practitioners and works closely with other stakeholder organisations to ensure members are represented.

Northern Ireland Hospital Dental Services Forum

represents dentists working in Hospital Dentistry across Northern Ireland. The forum also provides a channel of communication between hospital dental staff and BMA which leads negotiations on terms and conditions of service, and lobbies on issues of importance in Hospital Dentistry. The NI HDS Forum is also represented on the BDA Central Committee for Hospital Dental Services by three representatives, comprising one each Consultant, SAS and Resident representative.

BDA Principal Executive Committee

is the highest decision-making body within the BDA. It sets the strategic direction of the organisation and is made up of Directors elected directly by the membership.

UK Council Representatives from the four country councils meet as the UK Council, to discuss matters of common concern brought by the various local bodies. The UK Council has an important role on behalf of members in holding the PEC to account on behalf of members.

BDA Community Dental Services Group – Northern Ireland Division

CDS Community Dental Services

Multi-topic CDS Study Day

Karen Maxwell

Chair of the CDS Group, NI Division

Management of common oral conditions affecting older adults

Dr Conor O’Gorman and
Dr Amanda Willis

Oral Cancer

Dr Amanda Willis

Avoiding Burnout

Dr Noel Kavanagh

Date: Thursday 30 April 2026

Time: 09:00 – 16:30

Venue: Dunadry Hotel



BDA Members: £60 | DCPs: £50

Non-Members: £85 | Student: £50

Book online at

[Bda.org/bda-groups](https://bda.org/bda-groups)

Sponsor



BDA Hospital Dental Services Group – Northern Ireland Division

HDS Hospital Dental Services

Multi-topic HDS Study Day

Darren Johnston

Chair of the NI HDS Forum

Complaints

Julie Healy

Biologics and dental treatment

Adrian Pendelton

Head and neck oncology

Peter Gordon

Date: Wednesday 18 November 2026

Time: 09:00 – 16:30

Venue: (TBC)



BDA Students

BDA Student Committee

The BDA Student Committee is made up of an Executive Committee, plus two BDA representatives from each of the UK dental schools.

The student reps have dual roles, representing two organisations:

1. To sit on the BDA Student Committee to represent students at their dental school and deal with political matters.
2. To sit on the British Dental Students' Association (BDSA) Committee to support the two annual BDSA social events.

QUB Student Reps

Lucy Mulholland
BDA Senior Representative

Alexandra Schaefer
BDA Junior Representative

The Student Committee represents the opinions and concerns of UK dental students. It ensures student opinions are incorporated into wider BDA activities and policy development.

Our policy priorities cover three areas:

- Clinical experience and the dental school
- Student finance
- Dental Foundation Training

The BDA and BDSA are separate organisations but work closely together. Political work is done by the BDA Student Committee, whilst the BDSA arrange national social events.



Lucy Mulholland

BDA Senior
Representative



Alexandra Schaefer

BDA Junior
Representative

Future Leaders Programme

Our Future Leaders Programme offers an unprecedented introduction into the world of dental leadership, providing insider knowledge across various domains such as governance, policy and research, education, PR and media, and more.

The programme runs from October to May each year and applications for the 2026/27 cohort will open for BDA student members in early September 2026.

If you have further questions email students@bda.org

Just some of the benefits of Student Membership:

- We are your trade union and negotiate on your behalf and through the Student Committee, lobbying for positive change to create the best experience possible at dental school.
- We're proud to have **Europe's largest dental library** – with 1000s of dental textbooks, including over 700 eBooks, to complement your university library. We also have collections of recent articles/packages available on key dental topics related to your curriculum.
- Join your future peers and colleagues enjoying the UK's leading dental journal, **BDJ**, online twice a month as well as **BDJ Student** which informs on developments, trends and issues affecting students' journeys to, through and after university.
- If you, your spouse or a dependant need counselling or emotional support, call **Health Assured** whenever you need it. You can access the helpline free of charge 24/7, 365 days a year.
- BDA members get £30 off BDSA Sports Day and Conference tickets.
- Save £300 on membership when you graduate!

Recent Blogs:

N Ireland: Social connection, support and CPD at branch events' (Derek Manson)

'Life as a Vocational Dental Practitioner: My experience and tips' (Ben Wilson)

'Your application process through Oriel for DFT' (Joshua Kennedy)

'The Future Leaders Programme: A unique experience' (Joshua Kennedy)

'The challenges facing dental students of today' (Andrea Ogden)

'Choosing your path in dentistry' (Andrea Ogden)

'Ranking your Dental Foundation Training schemes' (Paul Blaylock)

'Getting the most out of student membership at the library' (Deqa Mohamud-Ali)

'More than meets the eye at the library' (Dr Sabina Wadhvani)

'Academic posts for Dental Foundation Training' (Neha Mehta)

If you have further questions, then either speak to the QUB Dental School BDA Representative, or email students@bda.org





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September CPD Event: Contemporary Composite & Restorative Practice

Composite Bonding: Tips & Tricks for Predictable Aesthetic Results



Liam Diamond

Liam qualified from Queen's University Belfast (QUB) in 2005, opened Diamond Dental in 2009 and has since established and expanded three successful practices across Mid-Ulster. Over the 20 years, Liam has trained with world leaders in composite bonding including Walter DeVoto, Dipesh Parmar and Marshall Hansen and is continually refining

his skills and protocols with composite. He is passionate about delivering predictable, high-quality results. In 2024, Liam opened Diamond Cosmetic, a clinic dedicated exclusively to cosmetic dentistry with a strong focus on composite bonding.

Aim

Share practical materials, equipment choices and a step-by-step protocol for composite bonding to help clinicians deliver predictable, high-quality aesthetic results

Learning objectives:

- Identify essential materials and equipment for contemporary direct composite bonding.
- Explain indications, case selection and isolation for predictable outcomes.
- Apply a reproducible step-by-step protocol from planning to finishing/polishing.
- Avoid common pitfalls; manage sensitivity, margin staining and repairs.
- Implement a simple photography and documentation workflow to assess results.

HOT TOPIC: Restorative Dentistry in Primary and Tertiary Practice



Simon Killough

Simon qualified in 1994 from Queen's University and worked in General Practice for 7 years. He has worked as a Clinical Lecturer and completed a PhD in the area of dental pulp inflammation. He has been a Consultant in Restorative Dentistry in the Belfast Trust since 2010. He also works in a specialist dental practice. His

main interests include dental oncology, hypodontia and dental implantology. He is presently Clinical Lead for Restorative Dentistry at the SOD.

Aim:

The Role of Restorative Dentistry in Hospital and Practice settings – an update in referral criteria and case examples.

Learning objectives:

- To understand the role of Restorative Dentistry in tertiary and primary care
- An update in the referral criteria for patient assessments in the SOD
- To explore the challenges of treatment planning in Restorative Dentistry
- To discuss realistic treatment planning for patients requiring Restorative Dentistry

Thursday 24th September 2026

Time: 18:45 – 21:30

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddell Hall

CPD 2 ¼ hours

Development outcomes:



BDA members: **Free**

Students: **Free**

Non-members: **£45**

DCPs: **£45**

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Let's talk

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Hollywood office:

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Hollywood, BT18 9AZ

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October CPD Event: Clinical Management of Medically Complex Patients

Taking the pain out of general practice



Claire Curtin

Claire graduated from Cork Dental School in 2007 and after spending several years in hospital and general practice posts, she embarked on three years full time specialist training in Special Care Dentistry in Wales. She qualified as a Specialist in Special Care Dentistry in 2017 and having held a Consultant

in Special Care Dentistry role in Cardiff University Dental Hospital, she returned to Ireland in 2021 and now works in Cork University Dental School & Hospital and HSE South West Community Dental Service. Claire is a committee member of the Irish Society of Disability and Oral Health and is on the Board of the Tricollegiate Membership Exam in Special Care Dentistry at the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh.

Aim:

This lecture aims to update the dental team on how to provide safe and effective dental care for patients who are medically complex including those that have multiple or serious medical conditions.

Learning objectives:

- Understand how specific systemic disease and medications can impact on oral health and dental treatment
- Identify how treatment plans can be adapted to minimize risk for the patient
- Understand the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration in the management of complex patients

HOT TOPIC: Dental Considerations for the Head and Neck Radiotherapy Patient



Neill Markey

Graduated QUB BDS (Hons) 2007 MFDS 2010 Glasgow Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. Locum Specialty Dentist 2011-2014 Restorative Dentistry department, School of Dentistry, RVH Belfast. Community Dental Officer Belfast Trust 2014. Specialty Dentist 2014-current Restorative Dentistry

department. School of Dentistry, RVH Belfast.
BDA SAS representative on the BMA NISAS committee.
BDA NI SAS representative on the CCHDS UK
BDA SAS representative on the CCHDS UK executive

Aim:

- To provide a brief overview of dental considerations for Head and Neck Cancer (HANC) patients who undergo radiotherapy.
- To discuss the dental management of HANC patients both pre-radiotherapy and post radiotherapy.

Learning objectives:

- Understand Brief overview of the treatment journey of HANC patients requiring radiotherapy.
- Understand the importance of the pre-radiotherapy dental assessment.
- Understand why pre-radiotherapy dental extractions may be required.
- Understand the effects of radiotherapy on the oral cavity.
- Understand the importance of prevention and ongoing routine dental care.

Thursday 22nd October 2026

Time: 18:45 – 21:30

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddel Hall

CPD 2 ½ hours

Development outcomes:



BDA members: Free

Students: Free

Non-members: £45

DCPs: £45

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November CPD Event: From Root to Reform – Endodontic Innovation and Dental Services Development

Advances in Endodontics: From Materials to Management



Nick Wright

Taking referrals for endodontics for over thirty years
BDS Bristol 1981
FDSRCS 1993
Recognised as a Specialist in Endodontics 2002

Aim:

An overview of current instruments, equipment, materials and techniques for successful root canal treatment. Also, knowledge of new treatments for difficult cases.

Learning objectives:

- Be aware of new materials available in endodontics
- Understand new treatments available
- Understand cases that can be referred

BDA HOT TOPIC: Dental Amalgam phase-out and GDS Contract Reform Update



Caroline Lappin (CDO)

Caroline qualified from Queens University in 1999 and was seconded to the role of Chief Dental Officer for Northern Ireland in November 2021 from her substantive post in South Eastern HSC Trust. She has worked across a range of dental settings including general

practice, prison dental services and community dental services. She has a particular interest in improving oral health outcomes for vulnerable patients.

Aim:

- To update attendees on latest dental amalgam phase out plans and update on outcome of GDS Cost of Service Review and next steps.
- Provide attendees with an overview of the Department of Health Reset Plan for Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland

Learning objectives:

- Overview of dental amalgam phase out planning and transition arrangements for Northern Ireland
- Overview of the current findings from the GDS Cost of Service Review
- Update on Reset Plan for Department of Health in NI.

Learning content

- This session is intended to give dentists an understanding of current planning for phasing out dental amalgam use in Northern Ireland. In addition, attendees will be provided with an update related to the Cost-of-Service Review for the GDS and the Reset Plan for Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland.

Tuesday 24th November 2026

Time: 18:45 – 21:30

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddel Hall

CPD 2 ¼ hours

Development outcomes:



BDA members: **Free**

Students: **Free**

Non-members: **£45**

DCPs: **£45**

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The BDA Benevolent Fund has been supporting the dental profession throughout the UK since 1883. Help is usually given as grants for day-to-day essential expenditure such as contributions towards rent or mortgages, bills and food as well as enabling people to return to work, in dentistry or otherwise by assisting with expenditure relating to initial travel, indemnity or CPD.

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Dental Student, Kings College, London

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listen as well as signposting to other sources of help. In the words of one of our applicants:

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If you, or someone you know, is facing financial difficulties, please contact BDA Benevolent Fund, in confidence, on **020 7486 4994**, or visit **www.bdabenevolentfund.org.uk** for more information and an application form.

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Support and Advice Services for BDA Members

The BDA Advice team of practice management consultants strives to provide a bespoke and local advisory service for members, covering the following areas:

- Employment Law
- Associateships
- GDS issues
- Staffing issues
- Conversion to private practice
- Setting up in practice

Our advisors:

- are your experts in the industry's laws, contracts and regulations
- help you save time and money with relevant and commercially sound advice
- are your first port of call for professional solutions

We are available on the telephone to offer quick advice when you need it. When you have more complex matters, we will pair you with an advisor who will handle your case on a one-to-one basis. Your dedicated advisor will set aside time to work through any documentation and will arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss the next steps.

One-to-one advice

Extra and Expert members have access to unlimited one-to-one advice via phone or email from our experienced advisors.

Contact advice.enquiries@bda.org quoting your BDA membership number.

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David Paul

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BDA NI Social Events 2026

2026 Presidential Installation Dinner



Join the Northern Ireland Branch as Kathryn McKenna is installed as President for 2026.

The evening will begin with a welcoming drinks reception, leading into a wonderful dining experience in the elegant surroundings of the Great Hall of Queen's University Belfast.

Date: Friday 30 January 2026

Timing: 19:00 Drinks reception
20:00 Speeches and dinner
00:30 Carriages

Venue: The Great Hall,
Queens University, Belfast

Address: Queens University,
University Road,
Belfast, BT7 1NN

Dress code: Black-tie and
evening dresses

Cost: £55 per person



BOOK NOW
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Members, non-members and guests
all welcome

Booking deadline:
Friday 16 January 2026



Belfast Food Tour

About the tour:

The award-winning original Belfast Food Tour™ offers a fun, flavour-packed walking experience through some of Belfast City Centre's best food and drink spots.

Starting in the historic St George's Market, you'll meet local producers and sample delicious regional specialities before exploring Belfast's vibrant streets, visiting traditional pubs, world-class shops, and more — all while enjoying some of the finest food and drink the city has to offer.

Date: Saturday 9 May 2026

Time: 14:00

Meet: St George's Market

Dinner with CPD

Come together with friends and colleagues at one of Belfast's top restaurants for a delicious meal and an inspiring CPD talk by Jamie Toole on "Living in the Age of AI."

Date: Friday 9 October 2026

Time: 19:00

Venue: Deanes at Queens

Address: 1 College Gardens,
Belfast BT9 6BQ

Website: Deanes at Queens |
Michael Deane

Taste&Tour

Cost:

BDA Members: £50

Non-Members: £90

Students: £35

BOOK NOW

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Booking deadline:

Wednesday 29th April 2026



Cost:

BDA Members: £40

Non-Members: £60

Students: £30

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bda.org/bse

Non-members and guests welcome.

Booking deadline:

Thursday 1st October 2026

Young Dentist Group Events

Young Dentists Study Day

Join us on 11th September 2026 for a Young Dentist Study Day designed to boost your confidence, sharpen your clinical skills and support your wellbeing as you build your career.

The programme will feature sessions in:

- Oral surgery
- Restorative dentistry
- Endodontics
- An interactive “Ask a Dentist” Q&A panel
- Plus talks on mental health and the business of dentistry.

Refreshments and lunch will be provided, and we'll round off the day with a relaxed evening dinner in Belfast City Centre.

Date: Friday 11th September 2026

Address: Grand Central Hotel,
Belfast

Time: 09:00 – 17:00

Cost: To be confirmed



BOOK NOW

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Booking deadline:

Friday 28th August 2026

Students Event

Prison Island

Join us for a fun evening at Prison Island Belfast. Gather your friends and take on a range of interactive challenges designed to test your teamwork and problem-solving skills.

After the games, relax together and enjoy some well-deserved pizza. It's a great way to spend time with friends and try something a little different!

More details to follow via the BDA Student Reps.

Date and time: To be confirmed

Venue: Prison Island

Address: Unit 3, 17 Balmoral Road,
Belfast, BT12 6QA

Cost: All Students: £10

Booking deadline:
To be confirmed



BDA NI Branch Golf Events

Golf Captain 2026

Alan Cassidy

Golf Convenors 2026

David Mann and Chris Scannell

Lyttle Cup Golf Match BDA (host) v IDA



Date: Friday 27 March 2026

Venue: Royal Portrush Golf Club

Time: 10:30 first tee-off



Matchplay Competition for the Peter Lenny trophy

To take place during May - September 2026.

More details regarding dates and venue to follow.

Captain's Day

Date: Friday 12 June 2026

Venue: Royal Belfast Golf Club

Time: 10:30 first tee-off



Association Cup, Ladies Salver and Veterans Salver

Date: Friday 18 September 2026

Venue: TBC – full details will be available in the Autumn Branch Programme

Time: 10:30 first tee-off

Members, non-members and guests all welcome to all golf events.

BDA NI Branch AGM

Date: Thursday 24 November 2026

Time: 18:30 – 19:00

Venue: Isdell Courtyard, Riddell Hall
185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5EE

All BDA members are encouraged to attend

Benevolent Fund Fundraising Event

There will be a fundraising stall selling Richard Graham's book "A History of the Northern Ireland Branch of the British Dental Association" at the AGM/CPD event on Tuesday 24th November with all proceeds going to the **Benevolent Fund**.

Payment can be made via PayPal, cash, or donations via a Just Giving page.



2026 Events – Dates for Your Diary!

<p>Friday 30 January 2026 Branch Presidential Installation Great Hall, QUB, Belfast</p>	<p>Tuesday 24 February 2026 Applied Oral Medicine for Everyday Practice Stephen Adair & Conor O’Gorman</p>
<p>Thursday 26 March 2026 Beneath the Surface: Radiology and Periodontal Health in Focus Orlagh McPolin & Joanne Mawhinney</p>	<p>Friday 27 March 2026 BDA v IDA: Lyttle Cup Golf Match Royal Portrush Golf Club</p>
<p>Tuesday 21st April 2026 Optimising Outcomes in Developing Dentitions Karl Grimes & Linda Jennett</p>	<p>Thursday 23 - Saturday 25 April 2026 IDA Annual Conference 2026 Killarney, Co Kerry</p>
<p>Thursday 30 April 2026 CDS Study Day Dunadry Hotel, Antrim</p>	<p>Saturday 9 May 2026 Belfast Taste and Tour St George’s Market</p>
<p>Friday 15 & Saturday 16 May 2026 British Dental Conference & Dentistry Show Birmingham NEC</p>	<p>Friday 12th June 2026 BDA Golf Captain’s Day Royal Belfast Golf Club</p>
<p>Friday 11 September 2026 Young Dentist Group Study Day Grand Central Hotel, Belfast</p>	<p>Friday 18 September 2026 Association Cup, Ladies Salver and Veterans Salver Venue TBC</p>
<p>Thursday 24 September 2026 Contemporary Composite & Restorative Practice Liam Diamond & Simon Killough</p>	<p>Friday 9 October 2026 Dinner with CPD Deanes at Queens</p>
<p>Thursday 22 October 2026 Clinical Management of Medically Complex Patients Claire Curtin & Neill Markey</p>	<p>Wednesday 18 November 2026 HDS Study Day The Mount, Belfast</p>
<p>Tuesday 24 November 2026 Branch AGM Isdell Courtyard, Riddel Hall</p>	<p>Tuesday 24 November 2026 From Root to Reform – Endodontic Innovation & Dental Services Development Nick Wright & Caroline Lappin</p>