



**MEMBERSHIP
PROFILES**



**CONFERENCE/
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**HONORARY
MEMBERSHIP
DR PETER GREGORY**



**AAPD MEETINGS
UPCOMING
MEETINGS**

AAPD NEWSLETTER



HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

As part of the annual AAPD meeting in Auckland NZ, Dr Peter Gregory was awarded the AAPD’s Most prestigious award- honorary membership to the AAPD.

Dr Peter Gregory completed his BDSc (Western Australia) in 1968. He was Editor of the Dental Students’ Magazine “Matrix”

in 1966 and President

of the University Dental Students Society (UDSS) in 1967.

Following graduation, Dr Gregory spent 10 years in General Dental Practice in Midland, Western Australia, and then completed his MDSc (WA) in Paediatric Dentistry in 1980. He then proceeded to Chicago, Illinois, USA as Visiting Professor at The Northwestern University Dental School and Children’s Memorial Hospital (1981-1982).

On his return from the USA, he was employed by the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children in Perth (PMH) and the Perth Dental Hospital (PDH), initially as a Senior Registrar and subsequently as Visiting Specialist in Paediatric Dentistry. He subsequently held the positions of Director of the Dental Department at the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, Director of Paediatric Dentistry at PDH and continued his association with the Dental School as a Clinical Senior Lecturer. This association with teaching dental students at the Dental School, University of Western Australia, has virtually been continuous since 1969, firstly teaching undergraduate dental students and more recently postgraduate dental students in Paediatric Dentistry.

**ROLL:
AAPD HONORARY
MEMBERS**

R HALL

**L BREARLY-
MESSER**

P GREGORY

Dr Gregory has been the major supervisor of the MDSc program in Paediatric Dentistry twice. His credentials also include Past President of The Australian and New Zealand Society of Paediatric Dentistry (WA President and Federal President), Secretary/Manager of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Paediatric Dentistry, Past President of The Australasian Academy of Paediatric Dentistry, Examiner and Member of the Board of Studies of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (RACDS) and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry (IAPD).

In 1983, Dr Gregory established the first Specialist Paediatric Dental Practice in WA in West Perth. The success of this practice, which incorporated the use of dental auxiliaries to deliver quality dental care, was the fore-runner as to how clinical practice in Paediatric Dentistry was to be performed in Australia over the next 30 years. As the first Registered Specialist Paediatric Dentist in Western Australia, he established not only his own credibility as a clinician, teacher and mentor, but also the credibility of Paediatric Dentistry as a Speciality.

Dr Gregory currently holds the positions of Visiting Paediatric Dentist at The Princess Margaret Hospital for Children (Perth, WA), Adjunct Senior Lecturer at the Dental School, University of WA, and a Councillor of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons.

MEMBERSHIP PROFILES

The aim of this section of the newsletter is to introduce an established AAPD member and new or AAPD member in training.

Profiles: Newer AAPD Members

Dr Katie Bach



Q: What brought you to becoming a Paediatric Dentist?

A: I spent two summers in Cambodia as a dental student, working at a children's dental charity and a children's hospital. Through these experiences I realised the effect that carious and infected teeth have on a child's life and the difference that a dentist could make for

UPCOMING MEETINGS



AGM and casual dinner at ANZSPD 2018 Gold Coast-TBA

Plan is AAPD meeting in October 2018- possibly Sydney but will confirm.

Executive:

President: Dr P Sawyer
president@aapd.org.au

Vice President: Dr Erin Mahoney
vicepresident@aapd.org.au

Secretary: Dr Udit Bhatnagar
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Treasurer: Dr D Ford
treasurer@aapd.org.au

these children. I went straight from dental school to a hugely rewarding residency at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide and never looked back!

Q: Where do you work now?

A: I have a consultant position at Auckland District Health Board working at both Greenlane Clinical Centre and Starship Children's Hospital. I am also working in private in a specialist paediatric practice in Auckland. I feel lucky to have Nina Vasan and Yaso Ramadas as mentors in both the private and public sector.

Q: Where do you see your future in Paediatric Dentistry?

A: I would love to get more into the advocacy and public health side of paediatric dentistry. I currently have a research grant from the Starship Foundation working with our medical and public health colleagues, which I am excited to really get into.

Q: What do you like doing outside of Paediatric Dentistry?

A: I have finally got a house of my own so am enjoying spending time working on the house and trying to train my puppy. I enjoy travel and it's always a bonus to catch up with all my wonderful Australasian friends and colleagues in fun destinations!

Dr Marilyn Owen



Q: What brought you to becoming a Paediatric Dentist?

A: Paed Dent has always been my favourite discipline right from undergrad days in Perth, thanks to stalwarts such as Peter Gregory, Tim Johnston, John Winters and Peter Readman. Following graduation, for almost a decade I had the opportunity to work in a diverse range of dental practices both metropolitan and rural in Western Australia and Victoria. These experiences helped crystallise the pivotal role that quality child oral health care plays in establishing a positive life-long attitude to dentistry. I would recall how Peter Gregory emphasised the need to treat children with the utmost care; if they have a negative experience, it's "like a shattered glass vase, you can't put it back together!" Though only with years of treating adults did I begin to truly understand how all too often the mental scars of unpleasant childhood dental experiences, can stay with the individual for life.

The privileged role we have to help mould each child's positive dental attitude is a constant source of inspiration. We absolutely have the most rewarding and interesting role in dentistry, and definitely the most fun!

Q: Where do you work now?

My practice, Tassie Kids Dental was established in December 2015, when our family relocated to Tasmania. Primarily, I live and work in Hobart, with a branch practice in Launceston to help service the north and west of the state.

Q: Where do you see your future in Paediatric Dentistry?

A: Tasmanian child oral health is amongst the poorest Australia-wide. By further participating in CPD events and the ADA, I hope to educate and motivate oral health practitioners and improve the care that they provide. There is also a need to raise child oral health awareness across multiple sectors in the community in Tasmania. As a child health advocate, I'm looking to strengthen relationships with medical practitioners, maternal and child health nurses, schools, and community groups to raise the profile of dental health.

Following recent publication of my research into enamel defects, specifically hypomineralised second primary molars, I would like to help extend our knowledge in this area. The strength of our enamel defects research knowledge, especially regarding hypomineralisation in Australia and New Zealand is world-class; and I am very proud to have made a contribution in this area. I extend my gratitude to David Manton, and The University of Melbourne Research Community.

Q: What do you like doing outside of Paediatric Dentistry

A: We have been so fortunate to relocate to beautiful Tasmania. I've had the opportunity to make many new friends and already found some stunning places to visit. Where else in Australia can you hike on a snow-capped peak and walk on a sunny beach all in the same day?! Our children Violet and Edward always keep us busy with their schedule and antics. We love to bushwalk, cycle and other sports and travel when we can. Oh, and I couldn't live without pilates, because dentistry is great for teeth but not always the best for backs!

Profiles: Experienced AAPD Members

Professor Richard Widmer



Q: What are you doing in your career now?

A: I am currently the Head of Dentistry at the CHW part of the Sydney Children's Hospital Network. Our Department works hard on providing Teaching, Clinical Service and Research on Oral Health. We work closely with the neighbouring WCOH in the provision of such activities relying greatly on the very hard work of the paediatric dental Registrars during their three years of post graduate training as well as the Specialists for "on call" activities.

My journey from new Post Graduate, studying in Melbourne, attending the local ANZSPD meetings with my partner in crime James O Lucas, seeing all the "older" clinicians offering advice on clinical issues, both of us being so enthusiastic about all that were involved in, attending our first Conference in the Adelaide Hills, meeting Peter Gregory and Joe Verco to now being a senior member of our Specialty has surely slipped by in the curing of a sealant.

I have rarely stopped to ponder where I am at but a recent brief conversation with a medical educator colleague at CHW has made me do just that. She opined that I should now devote a lot

more time to teaching outside Dentistry while I was still very enthusiastic and keen to teach. So I am actively pursuing the development of modules in Paed Dentistry that can be included in medical, nursing and allied health courses, continuing our long standing philosophy of having oral health seen as integral to health.

Q: How did you get into Paediatric Dentistry?

A: Once I graduated my BSc I knew I wanted six months of work and then I was going to travel for six months and come back to Melbourne to study Oral Medicine. I had some wonderful teachers in this subject, Dr Brian Radden and Prof Peter Read and they were great role models. I visited several schools in USA and CANADA on my travels, meeting some of the Academics that I had been recommended to visit. I returned to Melbourne early in 1977 thinking I would apply to study Oral Medicine only to meet a dynamic new faculty member Clive Wright !! Clive was a paediatric dentist from NZ via Winnipeg and was very persuasive about joining his new MSc programme. Consequently, I enrolled in paediatric dentistry along with JOL and so our journey began involving the Dental Hospital and the Children's Hospital where we were very fortunate to be mentored by A Prof Roger Hall.

Q: You have done so much in and for Paediatric Dentistry- any favourite memories or patients?

A: I do try to look forward and not too much backwards but I do have some favourite memories. I do remember very fondly my time as a P/Grad, working closely with a lot of great staff over 3 years Prof E Storey and Dr Des Crack in particular. Leaving Melbourne was a complete surprise and not anything I ever contemplated. I remember arriving at the building site that was Westmead Hospital, having alighted the Southern Aurora (overnight train) in downtown Sydney, driving my 1976 Valiant out Parramatta Road and being filled with the sense that the first big adventure of my life was about to begin !!

I had no idea of the enormity and potential of the WH Dental Clinical School undertaking and thankfully I had a fabulous mentor in Prof K Lester. He was instrumental in giving me a free licence for the advancement of our Specialty. One of the early and significant changes he supported me in was changing our specialty designation with the NSW Dental Board from Paedodontics to Paediatric Dentistry. Another was his support, along with Professor Peter Barnard, for the establishment of our P/Grad training course. There was much opposition to this and they must take a lot of credit for helping us push through to where we are today.

I have a lot of favourite memories of people in our Specialty from all around our Country and Overseas, sadly some now departed and many that are still active in our Specialty.

So many good times with the ANZSPD, AAPD and IAPD but overall my time at WHDCS and then CHW are uppermost. I have relied on terrific helpers such as secretaries, receptionists and dental nurses over the journey and of course we have had a stream of fabulous Post Grads to whom I owe so much. They kept dragging me along !! And finally I want to draw attention to the wonderful Paed .Dent. Specialists with whom I have worked with over the 30 plus years and to especially thank my colleague and collaborator A/ Prof Angus Cameron for his clinical advice, drive and friendship as we look at the fifth edition !!

Working with infants, children and adolescents is as taxing and rewarding as any part of Dentistry. I have a number of very powerful memories of some special patients, who have coped with more than any child should have to and yet they have been so able to use a child's understanding (and teach me) to cope with their destiny even when terminally ill. On the other hand just when you think you have "it", in hand you can be pulled up in your tracks. I am

reminded of a recent occasion when I greeted a child with my usual approach, not expecting the retort, “you have got fat Dr Richard !!”. I cancelled lunch that week !!

Q: What do you love doing outside of Paediatric Dentistry?

A: Like many colleagues my life outside Paed Dent is all about family, however having a wife (Fiona Heard) who is an Endodontist does mean we circle into work things a bit !! Neither of us are yet planning retirement and now that our three off spring are leading their own lives we do plan to try and expand our horizons. However one especially new horizon is that we are grandparents now to baby Ollie, 22 months and that is a whole new life. In fact I have had to reconsider my long standing advice to new parents about cleaning teeth as soon as they appear!! Trying to clean little Ollie’s teeth is like wrestling an octopus. I now give parents a lot more leeway when they complain how hard it is to clean teeth!

I am also a keen rower, still training and competing for UNSW, as does Fiona and of course we have signed Ollie up as a junior SWANS AFL member and take him to as many games as we can.

MEETING UPDATES

Recently an AAPD Member- Professor David Manton attended an ORCA meeting. Here is a short summary.

Dental caries still affects the vast majority of children in SE Asia, with children in countries such as Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos, amongst others, being severely affected. The European Organisation for Caries Research (ORCA) has a history of organising 'summer schools' in countries where there is potential for increased involvement in research into dental caries. So after a proposal from Profs Chew Hooi Pin (Kuala Lumpur), Kim Ekstrand (Copenhagen) and David Manton (Melbourne), a meeting in July 2017 was organised in conjunction with the University of Malaya dental school (<http://orcamalaysia2017.com/welcome-remark-dean/>).



The meeting consisted of a day of lectures from cariologists from Europe, the USA, South America and Australia, focusing on basic cariology and research methodology, with the next two days focusing on statistical analysis and trial methodology, as well as the chance for participants to discuss proposed research projects with ORCA mentors. Collaborative meetings such as this provide great opportunity for the transfer of information and ideas, and broaden the scope of cariology research in the area.