



## DENTISTS ON FILM

## Lethal Weapon 4

H. S. Brand of the Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam, and movie buff, looks at the dental presence in *Lethal Weapon 4*, an action movie directed by Richard Donner (1998).

Some detectives in Los Angeles are looking for gang leader Benny Chan. When they learn that Benny has an appointment with his dentist, private detective Leo reports to the receptionist too. 'I am in pain!' he says. When the receptionist asks why he did not go to his own dentist, Leo says that his dentist is in Detroit. The receptionist now walks to the dentist, who is treating Benny Chan using surgical binocular loupes. 'Doctor excuse me, I'm sorry to bother you, but we have an emergency,' says the receptionist. 'A man has just walked in off the street. He is in a lot of pain, you better come with me.'

The Chinese dentist says a few words in Chinese to Benny and goes to another treatment room. There he tries to examine Leo's mouth with a mirror. Leo screams terribly and wants to watch with a hand mirror. He threatens the dentist: 'If you hurt me, I'll stick an egg roll in your ass.'

Meanwhile, the other agents sneak into the other treatment room where Benny Chan is lying in the dental chair. One cop threatens Benny with an operating hand piece, another with an extractor. Benny starts to struggle and the cops place the nose piece of the laughing gas equipment on his face. Meanwhile, Leo is still struggling during the oral examination and grasps the dentist's bow tie. 'You said it would not hurt!' he says.

When the dentist places a syringe in his mouth, Leo screams: 'I don't need needles!' The dental assistant holds both his hands. When the dentist starts drilling Leo roars the name of one of his fellow agents: 'Come quickly!' Under the influence of the laughing gas, Benny Chan has started talking, but the detectives have become intoxicated by the gas too, making them noisy. The dentist rushes in and shouts 'What are you doing here?' All agents leave the dental practice and the dentist bends over Benny Chan again.

## Honours, awards, appointments

**Dean of the Faculty**

Ian Mills has been elected as the next Dean of the Faculty of General Dental Practice UK (FGDP[UK]). Ian, who works in general dental practice in North Devon, previously held the post of Academic Clinical Fellow at Plymouth University Peninsula School of Dentistry, and is a Fellow of the Faculty. He is currently senior Vice-Dean of FGDP (UK) and will be inaugurated as Dean on 15 June 2018, taking over from Dr Mick Horton.

**Chair of ECDSC**

Charlotte Waite has been elected Chair of the BDA's England Community Dental Services Committee (ECDSC). Charlotte is a senior community dentist based in Leicestershire, and has served as Vice Chair for the last three years.

**NI Council Chair**

Roz McMullan has been re-elected as Chair of Northern Ireland Council. Roz previously served as NI Council Chair from 2015-17. She is elected as a representative member from BDA Northern Ireland Branch. Roz previously practised as a consultant orthodontist in the Western Health and Social Care Trust. As part of

her role as Chair she sits as a non-voting member on the Northern Ireland Dental Practice and Salaried Dentists Committees.

Richard Graham, a GDP, was elected as Vice Chair of Northern Ireland Council.

**BDJ Reader Panel**

The *British Dental Journal* has appointed a Reader Panel, selecting the following 13 panel members from 22 applications:

Shyam Karia  
Erika Spyer  
Margaret Foxtton  
Thomas Dey  
Pav Chana  
Glesni Llwyd  
Michael O'Reilly  
Pramod Subbaraman  
Simon Threadgill  
Hussein Hassanali  
Gillian Howie  
Varinder Bassi  
Bethan Liddy.

The Panel members have been chosen from a wide range of career stages and geographical areas in the UK and will be called upon for feedback, ideas and suggestions for the *BDJ*.

BDA Branch  
AGM Notices

The Annual General Meeting of the Southern Counties Branch will take place at 18:00 on Thursday 19 April at the Grand Hotel in Brighton. To confirm your attendance or submit apologies please contact John Strevens, Meetings Secretary, at str1jas@hotmail.com.

The Annual General Meeting of the West of Scotland Branch will take place at 18:45 on Wednesday 25 April at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in Glasgow. To confirm your attendance or submit apologies please contact Andrew Miller at secretary@bdawos.org.

The Annual General Meeting of the Wessex Branch will take place at 13:00 on Friday 27 April at Chilworth Manor (Best Western) in Southampton. To confirm your attendance or submit apologies please contact Nerina Hendrickse at wessexbdasec@gmail.com.

The Annual General Meeting of the Essex Branch will be held on 18 April at Writtle College, Chelmsford, CM1 3RR between 12:00 and 13:00. Please contact Nick Barker at nick.barker@tiscali.co.uk to confirm your attendance at the AGM only or submit apologies.