



Word of Mouth

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The patient's practice newsletter

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**YOU ARE NOW
DUE FOR
YOUR ROUTINE
CHECK-UP**

**Please contact the
practice to arrange a
suitable
appointment**

It's Credit Crunch time and I thought that it would make a nice distraction to take a light-hearted look at the world of dentistry.

Monkeys teach offspring to floss their teeth

An article in The Telegraph last month reported on a Japanese scientific study which observed female monkeys teaching their young how to use strands of hair to clean between their teeth. "This study is still at the hypothesis stage," said Professor Masataka.

What's in a Name?

In February, the BBC News website did an article on unfortunate names, such as Justin Case, Barb Dwyer and Stan Still.

By trawling through online telephone records, researchers from TheBabyWebsite.com uncovered all of these real names and more.

How about Terry Bull, Carrie Oakey, Priti Manek, Tim Burr, Anna Sasin and Stan Still.

BBC viewers then started a list of other inopportune names, such as Albert Hall, Jenny Taylor (think about it!), Jo King and a husband (banker) and wife (lawyer) called Rob and Sue Mee!!

This BBC article was picked up by an online group of dentists to which I belong. Of course, it should come as no surprise that there are some dentists in the UK with amusing names: Chris(topher) P. Bacon, Ali(son) Barber, Phil Hollows, Mr Bludd, Mr Needleman, Mr Puller, Mr Dentith, Mr Socket, and Mr Spittal

Apparently the term *Nominative Determinism* has been coined to reflect such amusing instances where people's names suggest key attributes of their jobs. Do you know of any locally?

On a personal note, I have two sons. Neither are called Ben, Stan, Sid or Neil !!

Best wishes

Dr Paul Downes
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