

5th May 2009

Tavistock Dentist Open Mouthed at National Award

A dentist from Tavistock received a shock when he was presented with an award he did not know he was even in the running for!

Dr. John Patrick McVeigh from Abbey Mead Dental Practice and Implant Centre had travelled with his staff up to the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Hyde Park as he had been shortlisted for the Dentist of the Year 2009. He was up against five other dentists from London and Hertfordshire but on the night was presented with a much higher accolade. Paddy, as he is affectionately known by family and friends, was given the 'People's Award for Patient Care' after a unanimous vote. The judging panel consisted of members of various dental professional associations and practitioners including technicians, dental nurses and eminent dentists. The decision was mainly due to a testimonial from a patient after he was involved in a helicopter crash, on his honeymoon at Grand Canyon, USA, which caused the partial destruction of eleven teeth.

Mr Clarke, who lives in Poole, said "I had a personal recommendation to Dr. McVeigh and from the initial meeting I was reassured by his professionalism. He was incredibly supportive and explained each process in a manner that was easy to understand and allowed me to make informed choices about my treatment. His time and dedication have proven invaluable- the crowns and subsequent treatment have ensured that my teeth are now restored to a level where I have regained my self esteem and feel confident when eating"

Mr. Clarke said he thought the 250 mile round trip was worth it to have access to such a 'high calibre dentist'.

Dental practices and their teams across the UK celebrated the 'best in the profession' at the eleventh annual dental award ceremony on 24th April 2009 hosted by Gyles Brandreth, TV personality and star of shows such as Countdown and Have I got News for you?

Dr. Ann Cummins, also a dentist and Dr. McVeigh's wife attended the event. She said "At Abbey Mead we all strive to ensure we deliver the finest levels of treatment and customer care. It is fantastic to have it confirmed that we are one of the best dental practices in the UK. We were surprised because until the announcement was made for the nominees we didn't realise we had a chance at winning this award."

Dr. McVeigh said "I am delighted my team and I have won. I am proud that all our hard work and training has been recognized, particularly for making a real difference to people's lives"