

Report of the Oral Surgery Club of Great Britain visit to the Stomatology and Maxillofacial Surgery department at the University of Lille May 16th & 17th 2019.

19 members accompanied by 11 partners made the visit organised by President Philip Earl and hosted by Professor Joel Ferri. The club visit was facilitated by Professor Ferri's long friendship with our member Tony Markus.

Most of the members arrived on the evening on Wednesday May 15th and all except for one stayed at the delightfully restored period Hotel Couvent des Minimes. On Wednesday evening most went to Le Compostelle restaurant for dinner, a short walk away from the hotel.

Thursday May 16th was study day and we left the hotel at 7.30 to be taken to the University by coach. In the morning there was the opportunity to watch surgery. This was either by attending the operating theatres or watching by video link. The cases we watched were TMJ replacement with a TMJ Biomet prosthesis, TMJ reconstruction with a costochondral graft and removal of a tumour from the maxilla and reconstruct the defect with an antebrachial free flap and zygomatic implants.

After lunch we moved to a lecture theatre for short lectures two given by members of the club: the use of cone beam CT in planning paediatric orthodontic surgery and the duplicitous TAU protein, and three by our hosts: oral habits affecting TMJ disorders after orthognathic surgery, the use of 3D models in maxillo-facial surgery and osteosynthesis in sagittal split osteotomy.

A separate programme had been organised for our partners (See separate report). In the evening we ate dinner in our hotel.

On Friday May 17th we went out with our partners by coach to visit La Coupole in Helfaut which was a Second World War museum. It had been a chalk quarry which had been converted by Hitler during the Second World War in to an underground bunker for the purpose of firing V2 rockets at London. Fortunately it was unable to function in that capacity due to the action of the British Bomber Command. It has now been restored into a Bunker Museum and Planetarium. After the visit we stopped for lunch at Le Moulin Snick in Blendeques, a rural restaurant in a converted watermill. In the afternoon we visited Arc France in Arques where we were able to see drinking glass manufacture.

In the evening we hosted a dinner for our hosts at L'Hermitage Gantois in Lille travelling there again by coach. Most of the members stayed until Saturday morning and travelled back by Eurostar or embarked on further travel in France.