

ADMISSION TO THE HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

PROFESSOR BARRY O'DONNELL

I am taking a great risk in trying to sum up the essence of Barry O'Donnell in the 350 words allotted. Of course I could tell you about his brilliant career, his appointment as the first Professor of Paediatric Surgery in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, of which he was subsequently made President; or his amazing breakthrough in the treatment of vesico-ureteric reflux, which was to win him a Person of the Year Award in Ireland. The Sting became a household word and helped countless patients – but you know all about that. He was also awarded the urology medal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the first paediatric surgeon outside the US to be so honoured.

But what has he done for England? Well for starters in 1956, after his senior registrar days in Great Ormond Street, he wrote a piece in the *Lancet* entitled 'The Outlook for the Surgical Apprentice', one of many for British journals. The BMJ, whose journal committee he was to chair, was the first to break the news about the Sting operation. It also carried a detailed account of Barry's dice with death during the Fastnet race in 1979, when sailing lived up to his own description of standing in a cold shower, tearing up ten pound notes and being sick all over himself.

I don't need to mention the fact that he achieved a unique honour in being made President of three medical associations simultaneously, the British, Canadian and Irish. And then there was the Presidency of the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons and the award of its highest honour, the Denis Browne medal, not to mention the Hunterian Professorship of this great College.

But I have no time to tell you any of this, so I will now cut to the chase and quote one of Barry's heroes, Admiral Lord Nelson, who famously said 'England expects every man to do his duty'. I can tell you that Barry O'Donnell has not only done that but he has done it with compassion and great humour, like the bon viveur and raconteur extraordinaire that he is. He is a man who I am honoured to call my mentor and my friend.

I am therefore proud to present him to you, Mr President, that he may be conferred with the Honorary Fellowship of The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Professor Raymond Fitzgerald

PROFESSOR HUGO OBWEGESER

Hugo Obwegeser was born in Hohenems, Austria in 1920. He qualified in medicine at Innsbruck and dentistry at Graz four years later. After training in general surgery and internal medicine he studied pathology in Vienna with Professor Hermann von Chiari, before entering specialist training in Graz with Professor Richard Trauner. He also took the opportunity of gaining experience with Sir Harold Gillies in the UK during the time of enormous developments in plastic surgery; and also Professor Eduard Schmidt in Stuttgart where he gained an appetite for the development of innovative hard and soft tissue reconstructive techniques.

A truly amazing story was about to unfold when he was appointed to the Department of Surgery at the austere and fiercely traditional University of Zürich. This for a young Austrian was a challenging experience. Nevertheless his ability, diplomacy and determination resulted in his firm establishment. Paper after paper, each breaking new ground, appeared and within four years he had gained a senior academic position leading to a personal chair in 1962.

After meeting a leading surgeon in the US army, he presented a three-day invitational lecture series at the Walter Reed Hospital and opened the European philosophy of advanced maxillofacial surgical techniques led by the Zürich School, to American colleagues. Professor Obwegeser always ensured that trainees had the widest exposure to evolving techniques, including those of his long-time friend and collaborator, Dr Paul Tessier in Paris.

In 1970 he invited all the leading professors in Europe to a postgraduate course and during this proposed the establishment of an association, which set the foundation for subsequent regulations at the European Union level.

He has remained very active on the academic scene and in a recent textbook reminds us of over 60 fundamental principles. Three months ago at the 50th anniversary meeting of the Zürich clinic, he delivered two masterly lectures, having only a few weeks earlier returned from a lecture tour in the USA. Professor Obwegeser has delivered numerous invited lectures and gained a galaxy of personal awards. He is thus a most worthy recipient of the Honorary Fellowship of this Royal College

Professor John Lowry

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PROFESSOR BERNARD WOOD

Professor Wood has done well by 'old bones'. He wrote his first paper as a house surgeon and after a spell as a house physician in Kettering, he returned to the anatomy department at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School where he pursued a career in anatomy, eventually becoming the SA Courtauld Professor of Anatomy.

His primary research interests are directed towards understanding the evolution of higher primates, in particular the hominin lineage that separated from the African apes between five and eight million years ago, and which persists as *Homo sapiens*. Professor Wood was one of the original team who took part in the exploration of the region to the east of Lake Turkana: this rich vertebral fossil site is the foundation of much of our current knowledge on the evolution of our ancestors.

Despite this heavy scientific commitment, Professor Wood made the teaching of anatomy his priority, teaching students, health professionals, and surgeons at this College. He examined in the Primary Fellowship Examination and contributed to the development of that examination into the Applied Basic Sciences Examination. He still teaches for three months each year in the dissecting room at George Washington University Medical School.

Professor Wood moved to Liverpool as the Derby Professor of Anatomy in 1985. Under his direction, the anatomy department expanded greatly, receiving the highest grade of five in the 1997 RAE, a rare achievement for anatomy. He also developed his administrative role in the University and was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in early 1996. He left in late 1997 for Washington as Adjunct Senior Scientist at the National Museum of Natural History.

The task in Washington was different: his role is that of a leading scientist in anthropology, running a postgraduate doctoral programme at a time when strategies and methods used to investigate human evolution and human origins are changing dramatically. The training of future professionals relies on innovative education and training. Our honorary fellow, Professor Wood, continues to leading the way forward in both areas.

Mr Chris Russell

ADMISSION TO THE FELLOWSHIP BY ELECTION

MAJOR GENERAL ALAN HAWLEY

Alan Hawley is a native of Wolverhampton and went from school directly into the army. After four years he entered Birmingham Medical School where he graduated in 1981, doing his house jobs at the Cambridge Military Hospital. This was followed by a spell with the Parachute Clearing Troop of 16 Field Ambulance. He was then a Staff Officer in Germany before returning to the UK as Second in Command of 23 Parachute Field Ambulance.

His second staff post was at the Adjutant General's headquarters and involved the implementation of Options for Change and the re-structuring of the army following the Gulf war and the 'peace dividend'. He then commanded 23 Parachute Field Ambulance in 1993 in Rwanda, for which he was awarded the Order of the British Empire.

As Chief Instructor at the Army Medical Services Training Centre he was responsible for operational training of all armed forces medical personnel. From here he attended the Higher Command and Staff course in 1997 before completing professional training in occupational medicine. He describes himself, however, as a 'specialist in conflict and catastrophe medicine'.

From 2001 to 2003 he commanded medical units in Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq and was then Director of British Forces Germany Health Services in the rank of Brigadier. In July 2005 he became professional head of the Army Medical Services and was promoted to Major General.

Alan Hawley holds honorary academic appointments at the Universities of Liverpool and Birmingham as well as the Royal Society of Medicine and the Society of Apothecaries. His interests include the philosophy and history of medicine, military history and the psychology of conflict.

Today the College honours this distinguished soldier and doctor with the Fellowship by Election.

Mr John Black

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY MEDAL

SURGEON VICE ADMIRAL IAN JENKINS

Ian Jenkins was born in Cardiff and graduated from the Welsh National School of Medicine in 1968. Early on he decided on a career in surgery, becoming a Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1973, and a consultant urologist in 1979. His other love was the sea, so he joined the Royal Naval Reserve in 1973 and transferred to the regular Royal Navy in 1975. His service has included HMS Ark Royal, Royal Naval Hospitals Haslar and Gibraltar, the Royal Marine Surgical Support Team and HMY Britannia.

During his career he has had a number of personal clinical and research interests especially the management of testicular cancer in the Royal Navy, professional medical education and the development of the Defence Medical Services. He was appointed Professor of Naval Surgery in 1988 – 1991 when he became the Medical Officer in Command of RNH Haslar.

In 1992 he became much more involved in the administration of the forces' medical services and in 1996 became the first Defence Postgraduate Medical Dean and Commandant of the new Royal Defence Medical College. In 1999 he was promoted Surgeon Rear-Admiral and appointed the Medical Director General (Naval) working in Portsmouth.

In October 2002 he became the Surgeon General of Her Majesty's Armed Forces responsible to the Chief of the Defence Staff and the Secretary of State for Defence. His main effort has been to establish British military medicine on a sound scientific and evidence base for the 21st century. Surgeon Vice Admiral Jenkins was appointed an Honorary Surgeon to Her Majesty the Queen in October 1994, a CStJ and CVO in 1999 for Services to HRH the Prince of Wales and a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 2006.

Ian Jenkins retired as the Surgeon General at the end of October 2006 and will retire from the Royal Navy in January 2007, leaving a legacy which will ensure that wherever British Armed Forces are operating, whether on or under the sea, on land or in the air, they have access to the best medical services possible.

Mr Chris Chilton