Queen Square Alumnus Association Newsletter
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Editorial

Dear Queen Square Alumnus Association member,

Welcome to this first issue of the Queen Square Alumnus Association Newsletter. I owe a debt of gratitude to Miss Pat Harris who established the Queen Square Alumnus Association in 1989. She was the driving force, along with the founding members and the late Professor Ian McDonald. The re-invigoration of the Alumnus Association would not have been possible without the support and assistance of Professor Simon Shorvon, Professor Andrew Lees, Ms Louise Shepherd and her colleagues in the Library, the Medical Illustration department, Miss Jean Reynolds, Dr Caroline Selai, Ms Daniela Warr Schori, Professor Jock Murray, Mr James Davis from UCL Alumni Services and last but not least Dr Surat Tanprawate. I have been encouraged and heartened that so many members of the Alumnus Association have been in touch via e-mail and expressed their interest in receiving this newsletter. I hope that in the future we can offer more benefits for being part of the Queen Square Alumnus Association.

Queen Square holds a special place in the heart of all that have spent some time here and I hope that you find this newsletter and future newsletters useful in keeping you up to date and in touch with events here. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have any suggestions for alumni events then please get in touch by e-mailing alumnus@ion.ucl.ac.uk.

In this issue: on page 2 we have the latest news from Queen Square, followed by a list of souvenirs available to purchase.

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All photographs have been kindly provided by the Queen Square Library, Medical Illustration and the private collection of the Editor.
Professor Alan Thompson appointed as Dean of UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences

Warm congratulations to Professor Alan Thompson, who has been appointed as the first ever Dean of the UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences. This new role comes about as the result of a major strategic restructuring of UCL School of Life and Medical Sciences. As a result of his new role Professor Thompson will relinquish the positions of Director of the Institute and interim Chair of the Neurosciences Domain.

Professor Thompson joined the staff at Queen Square in 1990 as a consultant neurologist with a special interest in Multiple Sclerosis and Head of Neurorehabilitation. He is now one of the most highly cited researchers in the field of neuroscience worldwide. He has been Director of the IoN for three years and during that time the Institute has seen a steady increase in both grant income and outputs in both basic and clinical neuroscience research. Some key achievements for the Institute over the three years include successful renewals of the Wellcome Centre for Neuroimaging and the MRC Prion Unit, the establishment of the MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Disease collaborating with the UCL Institute of Neurology, UCL Institute of Child Health and University of Newcastle, a plethora of major grants and senior Fellowships, the development of a major four year PhD programme in clinical neuroscience, the refurbishment of the Library and greater integration of neuroscience across UCL with particular focus on neurodegeneration and mental health.

Prior to becoming Director of the UCL Institute of Neurology, Professor Thompson was Clinical Director of the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery (UCLH). It was during his tenure, that the National working with the Institute established the Centre for Clinical Research at Number 33, complete with laboratories, outpatient and an impressive new 220 seater lecture theatre, and completed the Advanced Neuroimaging Suite which included the first interventional scanner in the UK, opened by Princess Anne, the princess Royal in October 2008.

The Institute and National Hospital together form a national and international centre of excellence at Queen Square for teaching, training and research in neurology and allied clinical and basic neurosciences.

Professor Thompson said “This has been one of the most enjoyable and fulfilling times in my career – there is an extraordinary atmosphere at Queen Square which is stimulating, supportive and collegiate. It has been particularly gratifying to see the way in which the profile of neuroscience has risen. My aim is that the new Faculty of Brain Sciences will result in a further, substantial rise in profile and productivity. It brings together six exciting and dynamic Institutes and Divisions across sensory systems, cognitive and behavioural function, psychology, psychiatry and neurology - and there is no doubt but that the Institute of Neurology will play a critical role in its success”

Professor Thompson continues as Programme Director for Neuroscience at UCL Partners, and recruitment to the position of Director of the IoN will take place in autumn of 2011.

UCL neuroscientists among the most cited in Parkinson’s disease research

Seminal works by current and past UCL neuroscientists account for 10 out of the top 100 most cited Parkinson’s disease researchers, according to a list recently published in the Journal of Parkinson’s Disease.

The list authors used 3 different bibliometric techniques (total citations, “broad impact” citations and H-index – see original article for explanation) to not only assess the productivity of individual researchers, but also to identify researchers whose work reached beyond the Parkinson’s disease research community.

UCL Institute of Neurology’s Professor Andrew Lees tops the list with over 23,000 citations since 1985. Professor Lees is well known for introducing apomorphine pump therapy into clinical practice for the treatment of refractory motor fluctuations in patients with Parkinson’s disease (these are the peaks and troughs in levodopa effectiveness which occur after a patient has undergone several years of levodopa treatment, leading to several severe periods of immobility during the day each lasting an hour or so).

Professor Lees cites this ground-breaking therapy, together with his work on clinicopathological correlations in Parkinsonian syndromes carried out over two decades at the Queen Square Brain Bank for Neurological Disorders, as his most significant achievements.

When asked to comment on this great achievement, Professor Lees is quick to point out the legion of collaborators he has worked with over the years, particularly his longstanding links with the University of Melbourne and neurologists Bill Gibb and Julian Fearnley. He adds: “I owe a great deal to the stimulating academic environment of the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery and its close partner the UCL Institute of Neurology and of course to my many clinical fellows many of whom have gone on to achieve glittering careers in institutions all over the world.”

Other UCL staff (past and present) on the list include Susan Daniel.


Professor Maguire awarded Kemali prize

Congratulations to Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging’s Professor Eleanor Maguire who is the recipient of the Eighth International Prize of the Dargut and Milena Kemali Foundation for Basic and Clinical Neurosciences, for innovative contributions to understanding human memory. The Kemali Prize (25,000 Euro) will be awarded at the Congress of the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies, FENS FORUM 2012, to be held in Barcelona, Spain (July 14 - 18, 2012), where the prize winner will also deliver the Kemali Lecture.

Upon hearing the news, Professor Maguire commented, “I am amazed and very honored to receive this award. I thank the Kemali Foundation for their endorsement of our work on human memory. I look forward to delivering the Kemali Lecture next year at FENS Barcelona.”

Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging director, Professor Ray Dolan said “Eleanor Maguire has made some of the most significant discoveries in human memory and this prize is justly deserved in recognition of her outstanding work.”

Award for Professor Roger Lemon

The Institute is delighted to congratulate Professor Roger Lemon on his being honoured by the Betty and David Koetser Foundation for Brain Research.

The Betty and David Koetser Foundation supports clinical and basic research in the field of brain research with focus on the investigation of movement disorders and neuropsychology, and is based in Zurich, Switzerland.

The Foundation awards research grants to support neuroscience projects. Additionally, outstanding achievements in Neuroscience are honoured annually with this award.

Professor Lemon said “Obviously I am delighted, because the Award is really a tribute to my research team, the Sobell Department, IoN and UCL.”

Professor Dimitri Kullmann recognised for his outstanding research

The Wellcome Trust has announced the first recipients of its Investigator Awards, £56 million worth of funding for exceptional researchers addressing the most important questions about health and disease, and we are delighted to be able to congratulate Professor Dimitri Kullmann, Head of the Department of Clinical and Experimental Epilepsy who is amongst four UCL Scientists to receive one of these prestigious awards.

Sir Mark Walport, Director of the Wellcome Trust, says: “The Wellcome Trust Investigators, together with our existing Fellowship holders, represent some of the very brightest minds in biomedical science. They are seeking answers to challenging research questions that could potentially transform our understanding of the mechanisms of health and disease.

“We are demonstrating our confidence in these outstanding individuals by providing longer-term, flexible funding; in return, we expect that they will make significant advances in knowledge in their field and act as ambassadors within the research community, helping us achieve our aim of improving human and animal health.”

Congratulations to Professor Kullmann; Professor Alan Thompson, Director of the Institute and Dean, UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences said “It is wonderful to see Dimitri, his work and particularly his plans for the future recognised in this way.”

“The Wellcome Trust’s new approach to research funding is unbelievably competitive and something of an unknown quantity and it is encouraging to see that four of the five UCL candidates short-listed for awards, were successful. It will be very important that many others follow suit in subsequent rounds such that we build up a large cadre of New and Senior Investigators here at IoN and across UCL Neuroscience.”

Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging student receives Young Researcher Award

Congratulations to Sundeep Teki, a PhD student in Auditory Neuroscience at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, who received a Young Researcher award at the 13th International Rhythm Perception and Production Workshop organized by the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences in Leipzig, Germany.

The Rhythm Perception and Production Workshop is an informal association for those engaged in the scientific study of rhythm perception and production which organizes biannual workshops.

Sundeep Teki gave a talk titled: ‘Distinct neural substrates of duration-based and beat-based auditory timing’ based on a recent publication in The Journal of Neuroscience and was presented with the award for this work.

UCL Alzheimer’s researcher receives lifetime achievement award

Congratulations to UCL Institute of Neurology’s Professor John Hardy, who has been selected to receive the 2011 Khalid Iqbal Lifetime Achievement Award in Alzheimer’s Disease Research.

The Lifetime Achievement Award, given at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference on Alzheimer’s Disease (AAICAD) 2011 in Paris, France, is awarded to outstanding scientists who have dedicated themselves to helping millions around the world through their research.
Upon hearing the news, Professor Hardy said: "I am delighted to receive the Khalid Iqbal Lifetime Achievement award for Alzheimer's disease. It is very nice for me personally to receive the award of course, especially because I know Khalid well, but it is also nice to get the reward on behalf of all the people who have worked on Alzheimer's disease and frontotemporal dementia in my group over the last 20 years. I think we now know an enormous amount about the causes of these diseases because of genetic work from many groups including my own, but we still have not yet translated those genetic findings to effective treatments. We have come a long way, and it is nice to recognise that, but we certainly need to remember we have a long way still to go."

Professor Alan Thompson, director of ION, commented: "This is a fitting tribute to the major contribution John has made to neuroscience - and still lots more to come!"

Dr Jonathan Schott receives the US Alzheimer Association 2011 de Leon Prize in Neuroimaging: New Investigator Award

Congratulations to Dr Jonathan M Schott (Research Department of Neurodegenerative Diseases), who will receive the US Alzheimer Association 2011 de Leon Prize in Neuroimaging: New Investigator Award for a paper he wrote with Jonathan Bartlett, Nick Fox, and Jo Barnes, entitled "Increased Brain Atrophy Rates in Cognitively Normal Older Adults with Low Cerebrospinal Fluid Ab1-42" (published in Annals of Neurology last year, Pubmed reference: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21181717). Jonathan will accept the award and give a talk at the International Conference on Alzheimer disease.

Aarti Ruparelia, a second year PhD student at the UCL Institute of Neurology, working under the supervision of Professor Elizabeth Fisher in the Department of Neurodegenerative Disease has been awarded two prestigious scholarships to fund a six month placement at the University of California, San Diego.

Jonathan will accept the award and give a talk at the International Conference on Alzheimer disease.

Souvenirs available for Purchase

Queen Square Tie (£20)

Queen Square History Book (£5)

Sepia Prints (£7.50)

Payment

Cash or cheques (sterling) or credit cards (Visa/Mastercard only). Sterling cheques made payable to 'UCL'; no bank charges to IoN. P&P £1 for non-UK orders
Interview with Professor Simon Shorvon

Simon Shorvon is Professor in Clinical Neurology and Clinical Sub-dean at the Institute of Neurology (ION), University College London (UCL) and Consultant Neurologist at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery (NHNN), Queen Square, London (appointed in 1983). His main clinical and research interests are in epilepsy. He runs neurology and epilepsy clinics at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. His research in epilepsy has been largely in the fields of epidemiology, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics, magnetic resonance imaging, status epilepticus and genetics. [http://www.shorvon.eu/](http://www.shorvon.eu/)

1. Who are the Neurologists that have inspired you over the years?
   Dr Chris Earl was the best clinical neurologist I have come across from the older generation. He did not publish much, but his clinical skills were outstanding and he was inspiring in the field of Epilepsy. My mentor, Professor Roger Gilliatt was also a person who insisted on high standards and practised with high standards. Of the younger generation there are many good neurologists.

2. How has Queen Square changed since you first arrived?
   The Hospital has changed beyond all recognition with the input of new technologies, the changing diagnostic and therapeutic methods and the change in culture. This is mainly for the better, but not entirely. The conditions of service have also changed, patient through put is much higher, sometimes to the detriment of detail. Teaching has become more difficult because patients are so briefly on the wards. The buildings on the outside have not changed much, but lots of interior changes have been made and there is the same shortage of space that there always was. The outpatients are generally much busier, the waiting times are greatly reduced, services now largely consultant led, which are all great improvements for the patients. The training of junior medical staff is much more regimented which again has pros and cons. The Educational activities have greatly increased with daily lectures, a variety of MSc courses and large numbers of MPhil/PhD students. This is all run by an excellent Education department which came in being in 2006. Red tape is also increasing and strangling us all!

3. What are the challenges facing the NHS?
   Challenges are huge. Demographic changes, increased cost and sophistication of treatment, rising expectations of the populace and increasing bureaucracy. Whether the NHS can survive all these pressures remains to be seen, but I personally hope that the principle of quality care which is free at the point of delivery can be maintained.

4. What advice would you give Neurology trainees starting their career in 2011?
   Neurology is still the most interesting speciality in which the clinical history is still the most important guide to diagnosis. It remains probably the most intellectually challenging speciality despite, or perhaps because of the advent of imaging and sophisticated investigation. Also the reputation of Neurology as a diagnostic but therapeutic speciality is also undeserved as the range of treatments and different treatment modalities have increased greatly. Advice to young doctors, Neurology is a challenge, but one you should relish.

5. On the Educational front, what is new?
   The most exciting development is the Distance Learning Diploma in Clinical Neurology with, at its core a programme of 550 online interactive sessions covering the whole of Neurology. This is a world first for UCL and should give access globally to Queen Square practice. The Diploma uses as its written text the Queen Square Text Book of Neurology which was compiled by over 70 members of the Queen Square clinical staff. For more details on the UCL Distance Learning Diploma in Clinical Neurology please visit the website at [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/education/courses/distancelearningdiplomaneurology](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/education/courses/distancelearningdiplomaneurology)
Queen Square Library – by Ms Louise Shepherd

People who haven’t been up to the first floor of 23 Queen Square for a year or so walk through the familiar doors to the Library then stop. They look around. They look back the way they have come to make sure they are in the right place, and then they say "WOW!".

This is the almost universal reaction to the results of the complete rebuilding of the Library that took place last year, This major investment in the Library was jointly funded by the Brain Research Trust and the National Brain Appeal, and includes the creation of new facilities such as a training room, new study spaces, and a wonderful purpose built space to bring together the extensive archives of the National Hospital.

Comments and feedback have been very positive and it is a great place to visit, work and study. Typical comments from the visitor’s book are:

“Probably the most comfortable and relaxed library and the most comprehensive neuro collection in the country, plus lovely staff.”

“The library is bright, spacious and cool since the refurbishment. An upgrade fitting for the value of the books, journals and artifacts it houses.”

As well as new study spaces and rooms, highlights include greatly improved computer facilities, increased desk and study space, air conditioning, wireless access and points to plug in laptops, easy access to Library staff and to the print collections too, and the unearthing of some amazing artefacts and archives from 150 years of Hospital history.

The Library also has a new name, new web site and new e-mail address. The Library is now the Queen Square Library, which also houses the newly created Queen Square Archive and Museum.

Next time you are in London, do come and pay us a visit and in the mean time take a look at the new web site to see pictures, and information about Library services for Alumni, the museum displays, photographs and archives. If you have any information, souvenirs or recollections of Queen Square you would like to share, or can help us identify people in the photographs we have, please do get in touch.

For more information see [www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library)

Archives: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/historical/queen-square-archives](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/historical/queen-square-archives)

Museum: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/historical/museum](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/historical/museum)

Alumnus [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/lib-info/alumni](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/lib-info/alumni)

Library e-mail: neurolibrary@ucl.ac.uk
Update from the Education Unit by Dr Caroline Selai and Miss Jean Reynolds

- The Institute of Neurology (ION) Education Unit is responsible for all areas of student administration, generic academic and pastoral support to students, mentoring to new lecturers, programme course conveners and new PhD supervisors.
- The Unit was established on 1st May 2006 and we have just celebrated our 5th anniversary!
- The Unit manages a portfolio of 5 Taught Graduate Courses and provides administrative, pastoral and generic academic support to over 300 research students registered at the ION.
- The Unit is also responsible for the Continuing Professional Development activities run by the ION and its sister hospital, the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery.
- It runs an Elective programme for final year undergraduate medical students from UK, Europe and the rest of the world, and provides administrative, pastoral and generic academic support to visiting students undertaking study placements at the ION.

News
We are about to launch two new taught programmes:

1. MSc for Clinical Neurology Trainees
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/education/courses/mscneurologyforclinicaltrainees
2. Distance Learning Diploma in Clinical Neurology
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/education/courses/distancelearningdiplomaneurology
This is very exciting course since it will be our – and one of UCL’s – first fully Distance Learning programmes.

History of the Students Office by Miss Jean Reynolds and Mrs Janet Townsend
"Miss Pat Harris was the first Registrar for Students at the Institute of Neurology and she held this position for 25 years before retiring in 1989. During this time she welcomed clinical trainees and doctors from all parts of the world who came to Queen Square for further training, and following her retirement she maintained links with many as the Secretary of the Alumnus Association. Pat also generously gave a sum of money to the Institute to create a prize for the best student on the Diploma in Clinical Neurology course and she returned each year to present it in person. Ann Newman followed Pat and was in post for one year.

Janet Townsend was appointed in May 1990 with the new title of Assistant Secretary for Students and Jean Reynolds joined the Students’ Office in October of the same year. Janet and Jean worked together for sixteen years until Janet retired in May 2006. During this time the number of undergraduate students on elective placements increased and there was a considerable increase in the number of research students following MPhil and PhD programmes. The Advanced Neurology Short Courses were introduced, together with regular MRCP and GP Courses. The MSc in Clinical Neuroscience commenced in the 1998/99 session. The Students’ Office became the Education Unit following Janet’s retirement with Jean continuing as Senior Unit Administrator with particular responsibilities in the new team for lecture timetabling, undergraduate students and short courses.

Dr Caroline Selai became the Head of the new Education Unit and Daniela Warr Schori was appointed in the summer of 2006 as Head of Teaching and Learning Support. The staff in the Unit has increased since 2006 to cover the administration of new MSc courses in Clinical Neurology, Advanced Neuroimaging, Neurology for Clinical Trainees and the Dual Master’s in Brain and Mind Sciences."
“The Interview” with the Editor

Dr Surat Tanprawate is a Consultant Neurologist specialising in headache disorders at Chang Mai University, Thailand. He was a student on the MSc Clinical Neurology at the UCL Institute of Neurology in 2009/10.

1. Why did you decide to study at the UCL Institute of Neurology?
The UCL Institute of Neurology is very famous and undertaking and graduating with an MSc in Clinical Neurology allowed me the opportunity to contact and work with world leading Neurologists.

2. What are your fondest memories of your time at Queen Square?
Carrying out research with my supervisor, Dr Manjit Matharu, on the health related quality of life in primary headache disorders. The many happy times spent with international friends at the Institute, and the teaching activities provided by including the opportunity to visit places like the Chalfont Centre for Epilepsy.

3. Tell me a bit about your clinical work in Thailand.
I recently became a committee member of the Thai Headache Society, and work as part of the neurological staff, in the university hospital in Chang Mai.

4. I know that you run your own website, tell me a bit about this
I personally use my website as a resource for medical students, and also provide them with my point of view regarding how to connect our career with society. I think it is important to provide enjoyment when studying neurology, and if you view my website at www.openneurons.com you can see how I am increasing my web presence. This is a very good way to advertise my work, teaching and conferences.

5. Are there any areas of research on which you are focusing your attention at this time?
Along with my research on headache disorders I am also interested in traditional medicine, how to cure people with self healing, and traditional methods such as massage, acupuncture, etc., with the aim of explaining these phenomena with scientific method.

6. What do you consider to be the major challenges for Neurology in Thailand?
To promote a new way of communication, using websites, online lectures, and hopefully produce a book which the general public (non-clinicians) are able to understand so that they realise that neurology is not too far from their understanding. Its life, everything in the world and everything that surrounds us is connected.

7. What are your plans for the future?
My plan is to continue with my research, possibly seeking a grant to allow me to study more in my particular area, build up the headache group in Thailand, and provide resources and benefits to society, not just in Thailand, but all human society.

8. Finally, you were instrumental in the re-invigoration of the Alumnus Association, what would you like the association to offer for its members?
To have opportunities to present their work in Queen Square, join activities with free registration, provide library access with some free journals, meetings once a year, possibilities for collaboration with researchers at Queen Square.
THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION. (From our Special Correspondent.)

The Drainage of Paris.

The Exhibition is now rapidly approaching completion, and everything will be quite ready before the great crush of visitors arrives. The City of Paris Prefecture of Police Pavilion is just completed, and the painters and plumbers are giving the last touch to the sanitary and the unsanitary house. The sewer in front of the sanitary house is now in working order; its automatic flush tank periodically discharges large volumes of water. To the sanitary reformer and the public administrator the two pavilions that stand in the central court, or garden, are among the most important and interesting features of the Exhibition. In the Pavilion of the Prefecture of the Seine will be found M. Girard's laboratory &c., to which we have already alluded. In the Pavilion of the Prefecture of Police may be seen all that relates to the drainage of Paris. But there are also some fine works of art—notably, designs for the decoration of the marriage rooms of the local town halls or mairies of Paris, and a large number of architectural drawings and plans for various public institutions. The most remarkable feature of the exposition is the large number of hydraulic models relating to the vast progress accomplished of late years and the giant character of the problems involved in the growth of large towns—are two admirably painted bird's-eye views of the north-western district of Paris in 1789 and in 1899. In the first...
Canadians at Queen Square

When I began my neurological training in the 1960’s I was increasingly aware that most senior Canadian neurologists had periods of training at the National Hospital, Queen Square.

I was there as a Commonwealth Scholar in 1967-68 and returned for sabbatical studies in 1977 and 1985. On the latter sabbatical I decided to review the files at the National Hospital and Institute of Neurology to document all the Canadians trainees. When neurologist-historian Dr. Lawrence McHenry of Bowman Grey University heard of my project he planned a similar one documenting the Americans at Queen Square. Unfortunately he died that year and did not initiate his part.

It was not easy as the records are incomplete, particularly early in the 20th century and for the popular postgraduate courses in the 1930’s. However, I was able to find out about a hundred Canadians who spent variable periods at Queen Square, particularly in the first half of the twentieth century when neurology and neurosurgery were being developed. Some of the early visitors stayed, however.

Donald Armour (1869-1933) came to London for postgraduate training in 1896 and later became surgical assistant to Sir Victor Horsley. He became surgeon to the West London Hospital and Assistant Surgeon at the National Hospital in 1906.

Percy Saunders (1877-1923) came from Toronto for postgraduate study and later became a registrar at the National Hospital in 1912. He also stayed, as an Assistant physician at the Royal Free and the National Hospital.

Lewis Yealland (1884-1954) was a registrar during World War I, assistant to the young Edgar Douglas Adrian, later Nobel Laureate, when they were assigned shell shock patients. Yealland has been demonized since because of his disturbing book on describing the approach using dominate suggestion and electrical shocks. He became a consultant at the West End Neurological Hospital with a busy Harley Street practice.

From then on the Canadians trainees returned home, often to be the first neurological consultants in their communities. Even when Canadian centers, notably Toronto and Montreal, developed large neurology training programs, trainees still spent time at Queen Square.

The postgraduate courses in the 1930’s were very popular and Canadians were in every group. When the library opened in 1939, the librarian’s office was furnished by former Canadian and American trainees. During World War II Canadian military neurologists would serve as house officers for short periods to help with the patient load.

After the war they came in increasing numbers. Max House from St. John’s; Gauk from Calgary; Bratty from Vancouver; Murray from Halifax; Wherrett, McIlroy, Kofman, Prichard, Gray, Hill, MacDonald, McPhedran, Schatz, Silversides,Berry, Humphrey, and others from Toronto; Barnett, Hudson, Drake, Peerless, Hachinski, McInnis and Feasby from London,
Ontario; Belanger, Libman, Mathieu and others from Montreal; and 75 others from across Canada. There were also many neurologists in Canada who trained at Queen Square but were from England and immigrated in the 1960-1970 period.

After 1970 few came to train at the National Hospital. There were various factors at work. Large neurology training centers were available in the USA and Canada. Governments were less supportive of international students and were charging increasing fees. Resident physicians in all fields were earning more at home, more often married with families and less often moving to a second center for training. When they did experience another center it was often another Canadian or American program.

In 1985, after collecting all the names I could, I wrote to all the Canadians and asked for details of their experience, their favorite teachers and stories. They wrote about their time with teachers such as Holmes, Kinnier Wilson, Symonds, Walshe, Carmichael, Purdon Martin, Critchley, Kremer, Pratt, Gooddy, Elkington, Williams, Blackwood, Marshall, Earle, Bannister, McDonald, and so many others.

The collection of comments and anecdotes is an interesting insight into the influence of Queen Square on neurology in Canada. When I visit in November 2011 I will deposit the collection in the library as a historical record by a large group of grateful neurologists.

Jock Murray OC, ONS, MD, FRCPC, FAAN, MACP, FRCP, MCFP, FCAHS is a neurologist and founder of the Dalhousie MS Research Unit. He was Dean of Medicine of Dalhousie Medical School, and past President of the Canadian Neurological Society and the Consortium of MS Centers. He was Chairman of the American College of Physicians. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a member of the Order of Nova Scotia. He is now retired from practice but is still teaching and lecturing on medical history.
Photographs from our archives

Can anyone identify the missing people from this photograph taken in 1972? The photograph was kindly provided by Dr John Rees.

Front row L>R: Dr Nigel Legg, Dr Reginald Kelly (Dean of the Institute), ?
Back Row L>R: Dr Austen Sumner, Dr Paul Lewis, Dr Peter Rudge, Dr John Rees, Dr Michael Harrison, Dr Sverrir Bergman, ?, Dr Adrian Upton, Dr Jose Ochoa, ?, Dr Tim Fowler, Dr John Jarrett, ?.

A photo from the Library’s extensive archives showing the Hospital restaurant’s Wedgewood room from the 1950’s

Thank you for reading the first edition of the Queen Square Alumnus Association newsletter. Issue 2 to be published in January 2012. Any comments and suggestions, please contact the Editor.