



Queen Square Alumnus Association

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The opinions expressed in the newsletter by authors and interviewees do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or the UCL Institute of Neurology and National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery.

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EDITORIAL

What Queen Square means to us all

I have been delighted to receive so many positive responses to the first Queen Square Alumnus Association Newsletter, and it is heartening to know that your time at Queen Square is still remembered so fondly. I started work here in 2008, and already in my short time here have grown very attached to the place, and find it hard to imagine working



MSc and Diploma students 2010/11

anywhere else. What I love about Queen Square is the general peace and quiet, surrounding area, and walking across the square and bumping into people



MSc/Diploma Clinical Neurology
2009/10

I know. I feel fortunate to have met and become friends with so many amazing people from all over the world, the one down side being that every September I say farewell to so many friends. Working so closely with MSc and Diploma students has been

fantastic, each year having different characters that help to enliven life at Queen Square.

We have made some improvements to the layout and overall feel of the newsletter from the first issue and I hope to make improvements and add new features over the coming issues. I am very grateful to Professor Andrew Lees who agreed to be interviewed for this edition and who provided excellent answers to the questions posed. I must also thank Andrew for introducing me many years ago to three of his research fellows, Dr Helen Ling, Dr Atbin Djamshidian and Dr Laura Silveira Moriyama, all of whom have become great friends. Our alumni interview is with Dr Anna Vakaet who spent one year at Queen Square from 1982 and 1983 and shares her recollections of her time here with us. I am delighted to have contributions to this newsletter from two alumni, Dr Muaz Abd Ellatif and Dr Omer Hamid, who with Dr Isam Izzeldin have written a piece on the Sudanese Society for Neurosciences. Ms Louise Shepherd updates us on developments at the Queen Square Library with the new Archives service on offer, and this issue also sees the launch of a new feature entitled 'Out of the Archives' in which Martin Woodward, Project Archivist at the Queen Square Library updates us on a new discovery involving Hughlings Jackson.

I would like to thank the following people, without whom this edition of the newsletter would not have been possible; Professor Andrew Lees and Professor Simon Shorvon for their support and enthusiasm, Dr Anna Vakaet for agreeing to be interviewed and sharing so many memories with us all, Dr Muaz Abd Ellatif, Dr Omer Hamid and Dr Isam Izzeldin for their article, Ms Louise Shepherd and Mr Martin Woodward for their support and articles, Miss Jean Reynolds for proof reading, Medical Illustration for several photographs used in this edition and finally Dr Naveen Gadapa, Ms Rowena Kemp and Ms Daniela Warr Schori for their ideas and support.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Queen Square Alumnus Association Newsletter. Please get in touch if you wish to contribute an article, make an announcement or share your memories of your time here.

NEWS FROM QUEEN SQUARE



Professor Michael Hanna has been appointed as the new Director of the UCL Institute of Neurology

Professor Hanna qualified in Biochemistry and then Medicine in 1988 at Manchester University and undertook postgraduate training in Newcastle, Oxford and Queen Square. He was appointed Consultant Neurologist at the Middlesex Hospital and the National Hospital, Queen Square, in 1999, and was promoted to Professor in 2006. For the past four years he has been Director of the UCL-Newcastle MRC Centre for Translational Research in Neuromuscular Diseases, and also the Divisional Clinical Director of the National Hospital.

Professor Hanna commented: "It has been an enormous privilege to be Director of the National Hospital, supporting outstanding colleagues to deliver excellent patient outcomes. I am now looking forward to supporting my academic colleagues who drive the research success of the Institute. It is an exciting time to build on the enduring core mission of the Institute, which is to undertake world class discovery research, education and training.

Over the next five years, the Institute, as part of UCL, will continue to work closely with the Hospital and UCLH Trust to apply discovery science in experimental medicine settings in order to find treatments for devastating neurological diseases."

New Years Honours

Professor Clare Fowler, UCL Professor of Uro-Neurology at the Institute and Honorary Consultant Uro-Neurologist at the NHNN, UCLH Trust, has been awarded a CBE in the New Year Honours List "for services to Uro-Neurology".

Professor Fowler established a specialist unit in 1987 for patients with urological problems and sexual dysfunction as a consequence of neurological disease. In 1985, a syndrome was named after her – Fowler's Syndrome – after she discovered why people suffer from urinary retention.

She said: "I will be accepting the award on behalf of all the nurses and doctors who have helped me care for patients and build up the department of uro-neurology."



Professor Ray Dolan elected Fellow of the APS

Professor Ray Dolan has been elected a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science (APS) for "sustained outstanding contributions to the science of psychology".



Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging researcher awarded Lloyd's 2011 Science of Risk Prize

Congratulations to UCL's Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging Research Fellow, Klaus Wunderlich, who has won the Lloyd's "Science of Risk" Prize in the category of Behavioural Risk. His paper was also voted "Best Overall Paper".

Wunderlich and his team at WTCN took the top prize for their research which, using Functional Magnetic Imaging (fMRI) looked at the brains of study participants as they played a simple resource management game. The researchers continually changed the parameters of the game, varying risk and reward outcomes, and thus forcing participants to revise their predictions as they played. They found that generally participants learned as they played, changing their behaviour in light of the new information, and that they were more successful when they did this, than simply by trial and error. This research, which has important implications to the insurance market, suggests that humans are better adapted to learn from experience than from studying statistical charts or graphs, which have little real-world meaning to the majority of consumers.

Upon receiving the prize Wunderlich commented: "Our paper gives insight into how the brain is capable of learning structures in our environment, and how this helps us to reduce the risk in our choices. Apparently behavioural risk is a very important topic for insurance and I am delighted that our work got recognized by that industry."

Professor Jon Driver

30 November 2011

We report, with great sadness, the death on 28 November of Jon Driver, Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience, and one of the world's leading psychologists and neuroscientists.

Professor Driver was formerly Director of the UCL Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience (ICN) and from 2009 Royal Society Anniversary Research Professor, jointly at the ICN and at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging at Queen Square.

He was an outstanding scientist whose seminal contributions have had a huge international impact. He trained many of the world's leading cognitive neuroscientists and was an exceptional leader. He was a Fellow of both the Academy of Medical Sciences and the British Academy, and a member of Academia Europaea. Jon's many friends and colleagues are in shock at the news of his tragic and untimely death.

UCL President & Provost Professor Malcolm Grant said, "Jon was truly outstanding, not only as a scientist but as a colleague. He gave selfless support and inspirational leadership to others. His vision and drive were central to the team that was successful in securing the Sainsbury-Wellcome Centre for Neural Circuits and Behaviour. We have lost a superb colleague."

Professor Ray Dolan said: "Jon was a dear friend and an inspirational colleague. All of us who worked with him admired his selflessness, his superb intellect and his integrity. The neuroscience community has lost an irreplaceable figure."



Wolfson Foundation awards £20million to UCL for experimental Neurology centre

A new centre dedicated to the understanding and treatment of neurodegenerative diseases will be established at UCL following the award of a £20million grant from the [Wolfson Foundation](#)

The grant is the largest single award ever made by the Foundation and one of the largest philanthropic donations in UCL's history. It is made as a result of the Wolfson Neurology Initiative, designed as a legacy to Lord Wolfson of Marylebone, who died in 2010.

The grant will be used to establish The Leonard Wolfson Experimental Neurology Centre at UCL. It will be based at the heart of the [National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery](#) (NHNN), reflecting the importance of bringing together clinical and scientific excellence in the search for effective treatments for these devastating diseases. The Centre will accelerate the development of treatments and identify future therapeutic targets for neurodegenerative diseases, with the aim of earlier intervention for patients.

Paul Ramsbottom, Chief Executive of The Wolfson Foundation, said: "The grant reflects our commitment to supporting this vital area of science and addressing the crisis of neurodegenerative disease facing an ageing population. In these times of austerity, the Foundation has taken the bold decision to commit £50 million of funding during 2011 including our largest single grant of £20million – recognising that much other philanthropic support is under pressure. We developed an extremely rigorous review process for the award, with advice provided by a team of internationally acclaimed scientists, chaired by the former Dean of the Harvard Medical School. The standard of the competition was extremely high and UCL's bid was of exceptional quality."

Professor Nick Fox, UCL Institute of Neurology, said: "The highest priority for patients with neurodegenerative diseases is to find treatments that slow or halt disease progression. These treatments must then be offered as early as possible, when the minimum of irretrievable neuronal loss has occurred, in order to have maximum impact on loss of cognitive and neurological function. There is increasing recognition in the field that the most effective therapies will be those applied in the very earliest stages of disease. This recognition will be at the heart of the work carried out by the Centre."

Professor Alan Thompson, Dean of the UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have been successful in our bid to attract this funding. It will strengthen and further develop the extensive work already underway at UCL in the fields of neurology and neuroscience and complements the experimental medicine focus of the UCLH/UCL NIHR Biomedical Research Centre and the Dementia Biomedical Research Unit. The Centre brings together an internationally renowned team of academic neuroscientists and complements our wide-ranging strengths in translational research in neurodegeneration at the UCL Institute of Neurology. Situating it within NHNN is crucial, as clinical and research expertise and patients can be brought together in the heart of the hospital."

Sir Robert Naylor, UCLH chief executive, said: "We welcome the establishment of a research centre at the heart of the NHNN, a move which reflects the importance we all give to the close relationship between clinical and scientific excellence. We have chosen a location which will enhance safety for patients involved in clinical trials by providing an extensive neurosciences infrastructure to support the centre. It will also allow us to work at the leading edge of translating scientific discovery into routine patient treatments. I wish to congratulate all of the research and clinical staff involved in this great achievement."

Launch of the UCL Institute of Neurology YouTube channel

The UCL Institute of Neurology is pleased to announce the launch of its own YouTube channel. The channel can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/user/UCLIoNTV?feature=mhee>

Currently there are 6 videos available to view, and more will be added over the coming months, covering the breadth of teaching and research that is conducted at the UCL Institute of Neurology.



Major new funding for research into epilepsy is announced

The EpiPGX Consortium, involving 15 partners from 8 countries, has received almost €6 million funding from the European Union FP7 programme to investigate the genetic basis of responses to antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) in epilepsy.

Over 50,000,000 people across the world have epilepsy. For many people, AEDs are simply not available, or the choice is extremely limited. In other countries, several AEDs are available to be prescribed, but the evidence guiding choice of drug for an individual patient is very limited. The EpiPGX Consortium will explore the influence of genetic variation on responses, both desirable and undesirable, to AEDs, aiming to identify genetic variants that will guide treatment choices at the individual level.

The Consortium is coordinated by Professor Sanjay Sisodiya, UCL Institute of Neurology (Department of Clinical and Experimental Epilepsy), with the following partners: Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), Istituto Giannina Gaslini (Italy), Eberhard Karls Universitaet Tuebingen (Germany), Stichting Epilepsie Instellingen Nederland (The Netherlands), Universitaetsklinikum Bonn (Germany), Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (Ireland), Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (UK), Islensk Erfdagreining EHF (Iceland), Universite Du Luxembourg (Luxembourg), Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (The Netherlands), The University of Liverpool (UK), Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine (UK), University of Glasgow (UK) and GABO:mi Gesellschaft fur Ablauforganisation:milliarium mbH & Co. KG (Germany).

The Consortium welcomes collaboration. Please contact s.sisodiya@ucl.ac.uk for further information.

The UCL Institute of Neurology has now opened the Queen Square Clinical Trial Centre (QSCTC).

The aim of the centre is to increase clinical trial activity in neuroscience by supporting and facilitating research and by linking with the newly established UCL Clinical Trials Unit (CTU), led by Dr. Ann-Marie Swart and working closely with the Central East London (CEL) Comprehensive Local Research Network (CLRN), current neurological disorders lead, Professor Alan Thompson.

The QSCTC consists of a clinical lead (Prof Mary Reilly), senior trial co-ordinator (Dr Tahera Hussain), nervous systems disorders CEL CLRN co-ordinator (Punam Dahya) and statistician (Dr Zoe Fox). This core team is helped by a group of QS CTC Principal Investigator (PI) subject leads, R&D and Pharmacy representatives.

The QSCTC web site is now up and running and further information about the work of the Centre is available here:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/services/qsclinicaltrialscentre>

Alumni News

The Sudanese Neurosciences Society (SNS) announces that its 4th International Conference and the 4th Clinical Neurology Course will take place in Khartoum (Sudan) in the period from 22nd to 26th Feb 2012

Programme:

Wed 22nd & Thu 23rd Feb 2012 the 4th Clinical Neurology Course- at Soba University Hospital- University of Khartoum

Fri 24th Feb The Opening Ceremony for the 4th SNS International Conference
25th & 26th Feb. 2012 The Conference at Al Baghdadi Hall at the Faculty of Medicine- University of Khartoum

Well known international faculty in the various branches of neurosciences are invited and a wide national, regional and international attendance is expected.

Dr Muaz Abd Ellatif, Dr Omer Hamid and Dr Isam Izzeldin



Please send Alumni news items to the Editor, Mr David Blundred
d.blundred@ucl.ac.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

12th Annual Course: Neuroradiology & Functional Neuroanatomy April 2012

Monday 16 April – Thursday 19 April 2012 (four days)

Anatomical localisation of function is a fundamental principle in the neurosciences. This four day course will correlate gross anatomy with neuroimaging and functional MRI to illustrate normal neurological function, the alterations that attend disease, and the bases for the clinical features seen in patients.

Course Organisers:

Professor Tarek Yousry (Division of Neuroradiology, UCL Institute of Neurology, London. UK), Professor Christopher Yeo (Department of Neuroscience, Physiology & Pharmacology, University College London. UK) and Professor Thomas Naidich (Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York. USA)

For further details and to book a place, please contact Ms Patricia Cheng patricia.cheng@ucl.ac.uk

Statistical Parametric Mapping May 2012

Presented by the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging

There is a three-day course on 'SPM for EEG/MEG' followed by the long-established three-day course on 'SPM for fMRI'. For more information please visit our website www.ucl.ac.uk/ion

Queen Square Advanced Neurology Short Courses

Monday 21st May – Rehabilitation after Acquired Brain Injury

- Experts in the field will describe the principles underlying the practice of rehabilitation after ABI

Tuesday 22nd May – Dementia

- Clinical and scientific aspects of Alzheimer's disease, and non-Alzheimer dementias

Wednesday 23rd May – Movement Disorders

- Practical aspects of diagnosis and management of abnormal movements

Thursday 24th May – Sleep

- Pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders, and those associated with neurological disease

Friday 25th May – Neuro-ophthalmology & Eye Movements

- Clinical cases on new user-friendly techniques for visual assessment suitable for neurologists & ophthalmologists

Course fee £850 for the week or £250 per day

Visit our website at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/articles/events/neurologyshortcourse2012> for more details

National Hospital's archives uncovered

As part of the Library refurbishment project mentioned in the last issue we have started exploring the archives held in various parts of the Hospital, and transferring them over to a new purpose built store. The project also funded a web site that can be seen at www.queenssquare.org.uk/archives



As it turns out we have uncovered an amazing and virtually complete set of records about the Hospital from its very early days through until the 1950's. This is in addition to the images and case notes, medical films, rare books, journals and manuscripts already held in the Library and in Medical Illustration. Together the collections provide a record of the fascinating story of the development of the Hospital, and of neurology, neurosurgery, neuroscience, teaching, nursing, staff and patients.

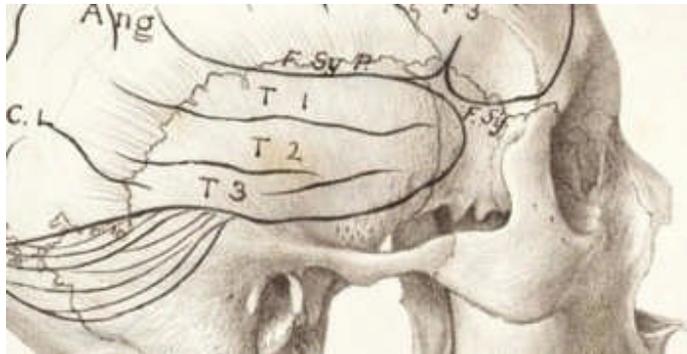
Exciting discoveries include a letter from Jean-Martin Charcot recommending Victor Horsley for the position of Assistant Surgeon in 1886 <http://www.queenssquare.org.uk/archives/record/QSA/2141> and 45 unpublished papers written by Hughlings Jackson towards the end of his life, and unexplored for nearly 100 years <http://www.queenssquare.org.uk/archives/collection/6>



Also, personnel records and diaries for nursing, domestic and medical staff (1860-1946); thousands of photographs, and medical images going back to the very first days of medical photography (browse a selection of them at: <http://www.queenssquare.org.uk/archives/browseandsearch>) and full records and the sometimes vitriolic correspondence relating to the first documented, modern-day brain tumour surgery for a glioma, which was performed at Maida Vale Hospital by Rickman Godlee on 25th November 1884 <http://www.queenssquare.org.uk/archives/record/MVH/EF/7>

Over the next few months the web site will be updated with more stories from the archives, such as that of Nurse Rosabella Fynes-Clinton who was offered the post of Lady Superintendent in February 1896, only to be asked to resign shortly after in favour of an internal candidate (a Miss Tweed). This resulted in an extensive correspondence between all concerned (including the Duke of Westminster), and Miss Fynes-Clinton being offered £100 in compensation which she then nobly donated to the Hospital. Also of patient Frederick Kempster, who was at one time the world's tallest man (<http://www.thetallestman.com/frederickkempster.htm>), one former employee who appealed to the Board for financial help and an amendment to his reference, and the fascinating details of a dispute between the medical staff and the administration of the Hospital in 1901, which almost closed the Hospital for good when the medical staff threatened to resign. Much of the correspondence between protagonists was carried out only on the letters page of the Times.

As part of the research into a new book being written by his family, a wealth of information about Sir



William Gowers has been found. A small selection of images illustrating discoveries is available on the web site, but much more will be published there to coincide with the launch of the book in October. Documents found include an album of holiday drawings, pages of the unpublished and unfinished 3rd edition of vol. 2 of Gowers' great classic, *A Manual of Diseases of the*

Nervous System (only vol. 1 of the 3rd edition was ever published), unpublished postgraduate lectures, and the original hand drawn illustrations for the manual.

The archives are also being used to help research a major new book on the History of the Hospital which is due to be published this year, and are consulted almost daily by researchers from all over the world.

Working in conjunction with medical Illustration and the UCLH archivist, we are also starting work on a Wellcome Trust funded project to catalogue the case notes and digitise the films. We have a very fine group of volunteers helping us carry out invaluable preservation and research work on the records, but we would welcome more volunteers, particularly with time to help us carry out research and preparation work for exhibitions and the web site.



For more information, to search the archives catalogued to date, and to see a selection of images and documents, please see new web site: www.queenssquare.org.uk/archives

Interview with Professor Andrew J Lees



Born on Merseyside, Andrew Lees qualified in medicine at the Royal London Hospital Medical College in 1970. His postgraduate clinical training in neurology was undertaken at l'Hôpital de la Salpêtrière, Paris, University College London Hospital and the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery.

He has achieved international recognition for his work in Parkinson's disease and abnormal movement disorders and was elected President of the International Movement Disorder Society (2004-6). In 2006, he was awarded the prestigious Movement Disorders Research Award by the American Academy of Neurology which recognises an individual for outstanding work in the field of Parkinson's disease or other movement disorders for either a single outstanding contribution or for lifetime achievement. The following year he was elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and received a NIHR Senior Investigators Award in 2008.

In 2007 he delivered the Gowers Memorial Lecture at the National Hospital and in 2010 he delivered the Melvin Yahr Memorial Lecture at Mount Sinai Hospital New York and the inaugural Lord Brain Memorial Lecture at Barts and the Royal London Hospitals.

Professor Lees is an original member of the Highly Cited Researchers ISI Database and is the most cited researcher in Parkinson's disease research. He is Visiting Professor to both the University of Liverpool and the Universidade Federal de Ceara, Fortaleza, Brazil and in 2010 was elected an overseas member of the Academia Nacional de Medicina, Brazil; he is also an elected overseas member of fifteen national neurological societies.

What are your fondest memories of your time at Queen Square?

When I arrived at Queen Square in the mid seventies I immediately felt at home and knew this is where I would like to spend the rest of my career. In contrast to the large and bustling London teaching hospitals where I had worked as a junior doctor the hospital had a misleading genteel feel to it rather resembling a gentleman's club. It was also very echogenic, a place where some of the founding giants of British neurology past still seemed to walk. The clinical demonstrations were an opportunity for the current crop of stars to show their brilliance and convey by direct lineage the practical tips garnered by their illustrious predecessors like Jackson, Gowers, Wilson and Holmes. Visits to MacDonald Critchley in Queen's Court to present unusual cases with parietal lobe syndromes and ward rounds with William Goody where we would discuss Proust were special treats. The burdens of the hospital's illustrious history can at times weigh heavily on one's shoulders but for me it has always been a welcoming friendly place to work. Fools are not suffered gladly and excellence is expected from its physicians. As one of my teachers said to me when I was appointed to the staff, 'Lees you have just won the Lottery of Life. Thirty years on I still feel that he was right and that every day working at this wonderful hospital has been my great fortune.'

Who has inspired you over your career?

My father who was an English schoolmaster has been the greatest influence of my career. He taught me that the greatest pleasure in one's career is to nourish and bring out the best in other people and to impart knowledge to one's students freely so that they will grow to be greater and better people than oneself. My undergraduate teachers at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel were inspirational and responsible for my choice of career in medicine. Like Queen Square the Royal London Hospital has a distinguished tradition in the field of neurology. My mentor at University College Hospital was Gerald Stern who continues to be an academic father and at Queen Square Christopher Earl and John Marshall were my particular favourites and both supported me strongly.

You have a special relationship with Brazil. Can you tell me a bit more about this?

I was born on Merseyside and my father used to take me as a young boy to the Liverpool Waterfront where we would see cotton being unloaded from Sao Paulo and later as a rather introverted child I immersed myself in exotic tales about the Amazon in an attempt to escape my environment. During my training at Queen Square I met a number of young Brazilian neurologists who had come from the Hospital Servidores in Rio de Janeiro to complete their training and who reinvigorated my childhood love for Brazil with their surreal stories of their homeland. I must single out two alumni Wagner Horta from Fortaleza and Aroldo Bacellar from Salvador, Bahia who were the first to invite me to lecture in Brazil in the early nineteen eighties.

Very few British neurologists had visited Brazil to lecture before my visit as most Brazilian neurologists had academic links with either France or the United States. Critchley had been there in the late fifties and he told me I should go on a diet before leaving England as the hospitality was so great and that his journey had taken thirty six hours by plane with stops in Lisbon, Dakar and Recife before landing in Rio de Janeiro! Since that first visit I have been more than fifty times to Brazil to lecture and have established solid collaborations with several Brazilian universities and had the pleasure of training a number of brilliant young Brazilians at Queen Square. The Institute of Neurology and particularly my department has a formal academic link now with the Universidade of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte and together with my close friend Professor Francisco Cardoso I have managed to establish a formal exchange programme between the Association of British Neurologists and the Academia Brasileira de Neurologia. One of the pleasures of working at Queen Square is that one has the possibility of meeting neurologists from all over the world and it is out of this lucky circumstance that I have been able to fulfill my childhood dream to visit and come to know Brazil

What are you currently working on?

My present research continues to depend heavily on the good will of my patients at the National Hospital. As clinical director of the Reta Lila Weston Institute I am responsible for the supervision of a large number of molecular geneticists and pathologists working on human brain tissue and spinal fluid. Current research centres on the cause and treatment of the dopamine dysregulation syndrome, postural deformities in Parkinson's disease, spinal fluid biomarkers in Progressive Supranuclear Palsy and clinico pathological studies in Parkinsonian disorders.

What do you think of as your greatest achievement as a clinician/researcher?

By far the most important achievement of my career is to have introduced subcutaneous apomorphine for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. Following clinical pharmacological studies of the sort that are exceedingly difficult to carry out now in Europe Gerald Stern and I were able to take a drug from basic research into clinical practice. This drug is now licensed in many countries and thousands of patients have benefited from its introduction. I am also proud of my contribution to founding and directing the Queen Square Brain Bank. This has proved to be a powerful research facility and has led to the publication of fifteen citation classics and as a result of our clinico pathological studies improved diagnostic accuracy for Parkinsonian disorders.

What do you think makes a good clinician and researcher?

It is becoming increasingly difficult to be both a good doctor and a serious medical researcher but it is not impossible. Inquisitiveness and thoroughness are prerequisites for both. I would advise a young man to try to spend his early years as a consultant in serious research but never to neglect his clinical practice. Avoid onerous administrative chores until one has fallen out of love with the art of healing and the excitement of science and always be a light to yourself.

How has the treatment of patients with Parkinson's disease changed since you became a doctor?

I entered medicine at a time when stereotactic thalamic brain surgery held sway and during my house job at Chelsea and Westminster hospital (then St Stephen's) I was one of the first doctors to see the dramatic effects of L-dopa. Nothing has replicated this miracle since but we now have a raft of other adjuvant efficacious medications and have learned how to use L-dopa more judiciously. Parkinson's nurse specialists and new advances in neurorehabilitation have been important developments and deep brain stimulation and apomorphine have both had a significant impact on the quality of life for patients who are no longer responding reliably to oral medication. It is to be hoped that our ever increasing knowledge of the mechanisms underlying cell death in neurodegenerative diseases will bring forward new disease modifying therapies in the near future.

"The Interview" with the Editor

Dr Anna Vakaet is a Neurologist working at a private hospital in Ghent, Belgium. Dr Vakaet spent one year at Queen Square as an honorary clinical assistant from 1982 to 1983, and shares some of her experiences at Queen Square and her career afterwards below.



Dr MacDonal Critchley

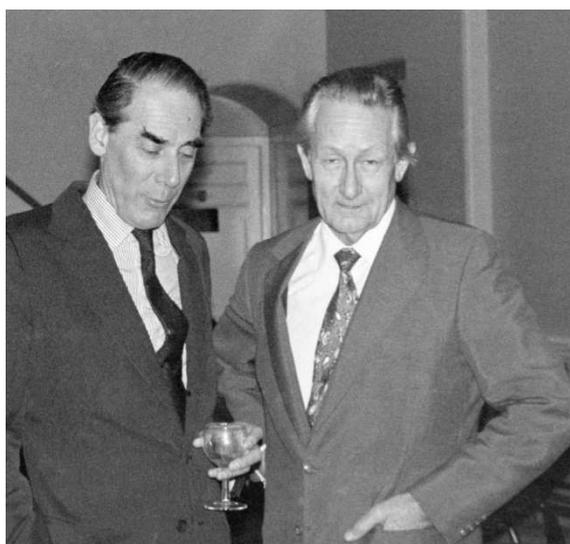
What are your fondest memories of your time at Queen Square?

What I most liked about my time at Queen Square was the exquisitely inspiring teaching we enjoyed then. Whether it was by 'Neurology Monuments' like Dr McDonald Critchley, who said "How do we examine the sense of light touch? – by using a flamingo feather from San Diego Zoo" (which he instantly produced from his pocket), or by the severe Professor Roger Gilliatt, who said "And how are we going to proceed now?" (when a neurological problem seemed insolvable), "We are going to ask a colleague who knows more about the matter", or consultants like Dr Joseph Blau, who said "Common things commonly occur, ban all expressions like 'almost, -ish, a little..., please define the medical term...". Still other memories come into my mind, such as the

controversial,

inspiring lectures and conversations about the link between psychiatry and neurology by Professor Michael Trimble and Professor Maria Ron. The very thorough introduction I received in electroencephalography and myography by the different consultants and the discussion rounds on neuroradiology, I simply adored attending. My memories of Queen Square are very vivid indeed, I am very grateful to all the teachers that have made my job so exciting. They not only transmitted knowledge, but also taught me to look into medical problems and warned me

always to be critical. The exposure into the whole subject of neurology I got during my stay has provided me with a base of knowledge to rely on for the rest of my career.



Professor Roger Gilliatt & Dr William Goody



Miss Pat Harris

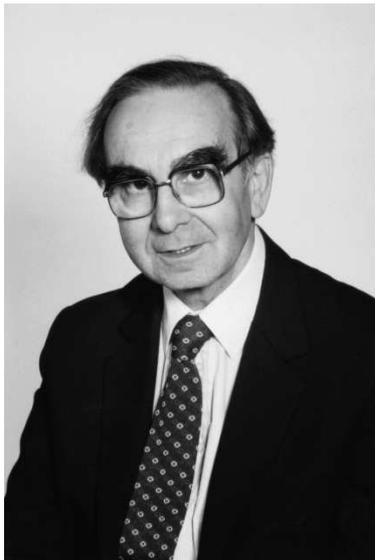
I owe all my teachers a lot, but I will also remain very grateful to the institution of Queen Square and Miss Pat Harris, its secretary, who was my guardian angel back then in 1982. Pat has always been my guide at Queen Square. She always made people feel welcome at her secretariat, and she always seemed to have some time for us. She looked after us, the foreign students, with mildness and lots of patience, because expressing oneself in a foreign language is not always easy.

While I was at Queen Square I also met numerous colleagues from all over the world. Some of these encounters were unforgettable, but it was difficult to keep contact throughout the years.

Unfortunately, coming back to Queen Square nowadays, it is impossible to imagine how things went on back in 1982 (the wards where you could just walk in, the nurses with their Florence Nightingale-like uniforms, the library in the middle of the hospital, open to everybody ...), so much has changed. Let me just finish by thanking the Hospital for having allowed me to repay the fee I paid them in 1982 by undertaking locums. This was my most direct experience with UK medicine and I learned there how well English housemen master their basic medicine.

Who are the people that have inspired you the most throughout your career?

I am not able to select one particular teacher, because there were so many. For example, Dr Peter Gautier Smith was an excellent teacher. Then, there were the big names like Professor John Newsom Davis, Professor David Marsden and the rising star Dr Anita Harding, all of them were excellent teachers! Their teaching was inspiring, not only due to the subject, but the way they taught. It has influenced my work throughout my career. We were taught to work hard, study hard and above all be critical. It was also very interesting to see that basic science was combined with practical neurology, in joined sessions between basic scientists of the Institute of Neurology and Neurology consultants.



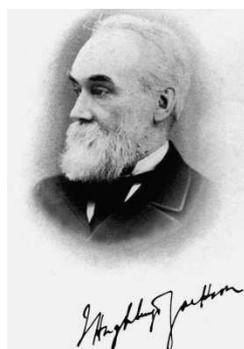
Dr Joseph Blau

Since leaving Queen Square what have you be working on?

When I left Queen Square and, after having finished a 5 year training (required by Belgian rules), I became an independent neurologist at the age of 30. Our training to become a neurologist is much shorter than in the UK, so I dared not call myself a 'consultant' at that age. I started working in the Neurology Department of Ghent University, but went to work in a private hospital in Ghent after 3 years, where I am working still. When I started in my hospital, I was the first true neurologist. Until then all neurologists also practiced psychiatry, so there was no time for me to get specialised, but eventually headache and movement disorders became my favourite topics. I am sure Dr Blau and Professor Marsden influenced my choice. My spare time goes to... teaching Neurology!

Out of the Archives

The second edition of the Queen Square Alumnus Association Newsletter sees the launch of a new section, Out of the Archives. In this edition we highlight a previously-unknown unpublished manuscript document by John Hughlings Jackson that came to light last year in the course of cataloguing work on the archives of the National Hospital.



Hughlings Jackson is to be regarded as one of the greatest figures in British Neurology. An accurate and shrewd observer, he was also a deep thinker whose modesty and tolerance earned him the respect of his colleagues. Hughlings Jackson was not at the time realised for what he was, a genius, until later generations read and appreciated the work he had done. He is best remembered for his seminal contributions to the diagnosis and understanding of epilepsy in all its forms and complexities. His name is attached eponymously to the characteristic "march" of symptoms in focal motor seizures and to the so-called "dreamy state" of psychomotor seizures of temporal lobe origin. His papers on the latter variety of epilepsy have seldom been bettered in their descriptive clinical detail or in their analysis of the relationship of psychomotor epilepsy to various patterns of pathological automatism and other mental and behavioural disorders. Together with Sir David Ferrier and Sir James Crichton-Browne, Hughlings Jackson was one of the founders of the journal *Brain*. Its inaugural issue was published in 1878.

In 1892, Hughlings Jackson was one of the founding members of the National Society for the Employment of Epileptics (now the National Society for Epilepsy), along with Sir William Gowers and Sir David Ferrier.

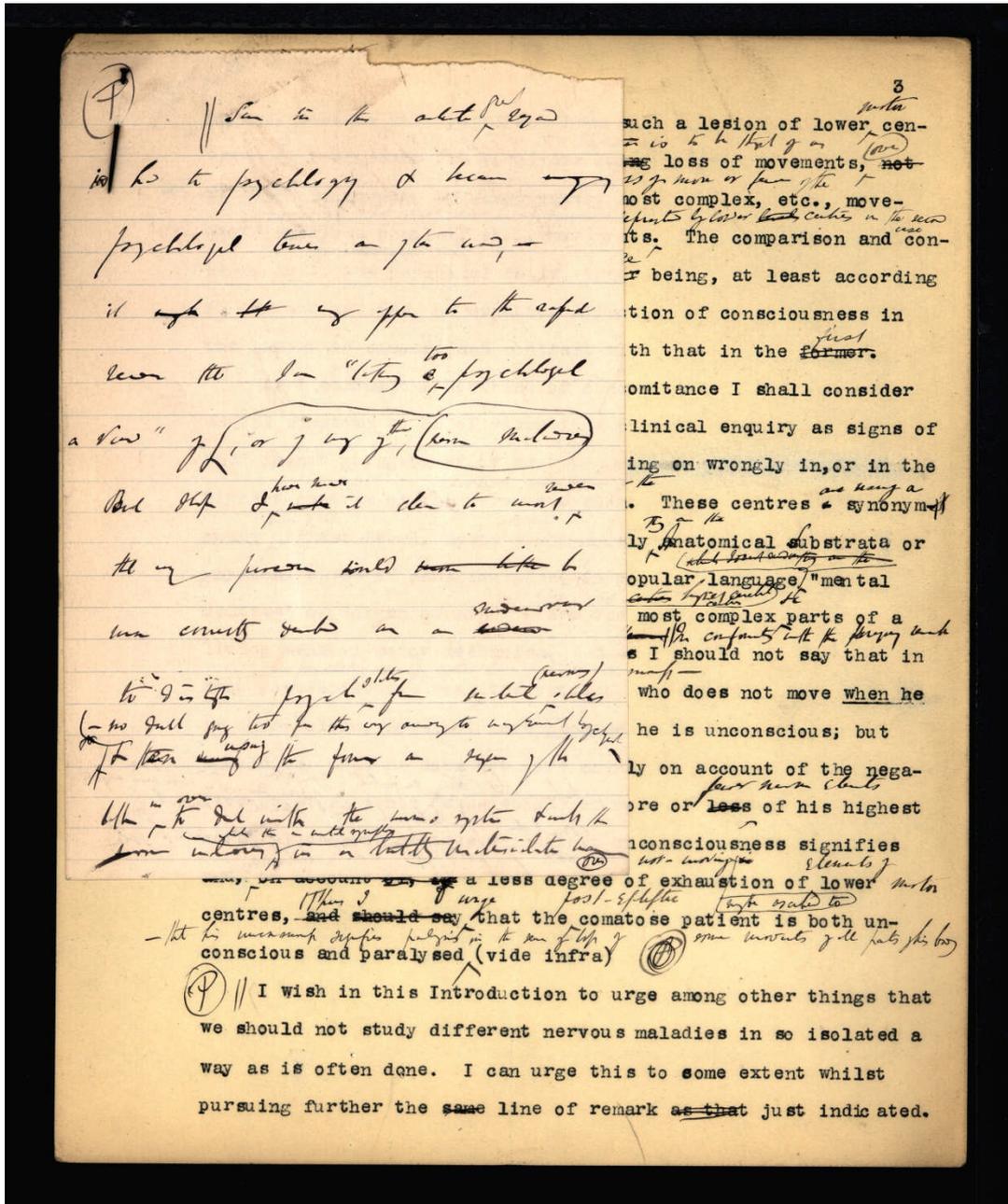
Hughlings Jackson published extensively during his life time, and a selection of his key papers was published as "Selected Writings of John Hughlings Jackson" in 1932. A century after his death, this new discovery is the latest treasure to come out of the archives.

The document, which is dated 1902, has already been featured on the front cover of the journal *Brain*



<http://brain.oxfordjournals.org/content/134/10.cover-expansion>

It has been on display in the Queen Square Library as part of an exhibition on the life and work of Hughlings Jackson. The manuscript, which is 14 pages long, is currently being studied and transcribed by Professor Michael Swash of The Royal London Hospital and it is intended that Professor Swash, Professor Andrew Lees and Mr Martin Woodward (Project Archivist, Queen Square Library) will write a paper about the document later this year for submission to a learned journal. The paper will place the newly-discovered document within the context of Hughlings Jackson's other published work.



The discovery complements the finding in the Queen Square Library in 2003 by Ms Louise Shepherd of 45 unpublished Hughlings Jackson papers, written towards the end of his life, which were examined and catalogued by Professor George York. These are all available as scanned images on the new Queen Square Archives website alongside various other relevant items.

<http://www.queensquare.org.uk/archives/collection/6>

Article by Mr Martin Woodward, Ms Louise Shepherd and Mr David Blundred

References

Queen Square and the National Hospital 1860-1960

Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Hughlings_Jackson



The Sudanese Society for Neurosciences (SSNS)

The Sudanese society for neurosciences (SSNS) was founded in 1967 jointly by the late Professor Daoud Mustafa Khalid and Professor Hussain Suliman Abusalih. Both are well known Sudanese figures in the medical profession and Sudanese society at large, with well recognized and outstanding roles in promoting the health of the nation and developing the field of neurosciences. It was the nucleus for planned work for education and training of neurosciences and promotion of related profession in the country.



P. Daoud Mustafa



As the responsibilities grew bigger, the SSNS expanded successfully over the years including new members and innovative ideas. Moreover, the society fulfilled its role of sharing scientific developments in the region and world. The SSNS has always kept a palpable attendance and active participation in regional as well as worldwide scientific meetings and conferences.

Recently, the SSNS started to link with local patient's societies like the Multiple Sclerosis Society in 2010.

SSNS is chaired by an elected president and executive committee of 6 members. The executive office contains scientific, academic, social and financial offices. The permanent office of the SSNS is based at Alshaab Teaching Hospital, Khartoum, Sudan.



صورة 1 From right to left, Prof Ammar (current president)- Prof Faroug Yasin- Dr Isam Iz Eldein (Academic secretary)- Prof Victor Paterson Ireland - Dr Etidal Ibrahim- Dr Husam Abuobaida- Dr Osheik abu'asha (Secretary General)- Dr John Nixon uk. SSNS 3rd Training Course Soba 2010

The SSNS membership, which includes highly qualified physicians with various levels of international, regional and local experience, is open for interested participants from consultants, doctors in training, medical students and society members. Currently, the total number of the SSNS members is 46, including well known professionals and also some important delegate and associate members.



صورة Dr Hassab Alrasoul Siddig/Dr Basher Mohd/ Mr Mohd A.Rahman Arbab/ Dr Alfadil Aljaale 2nd conference 2008



صورة Mr Arbab talking/ Professor Ammar Eltahir M, Professor Gurashi M Ali listening and Professour Hussin Abusalih in the screen (One of 2 founders). 2nd conference 2008.



صورة د/ بشير محمد بشير-د الفاضل الجعلي-د محمد عبد الرحمن ارباب و بروفيسر الدريدي محمد الأمين مروي 2008 المؤتمر الثاني



الجمعية السودانية لعلوم الجهاز العصبي

شعار الكورس



صورة د/ حسب الرسول صديق رئيس الجمعية السابق مروي 2008

The continuously evaluated objectives of SSNS include:

- To expand the knowledge of neurosciences across the country.
- To promote the welfare of patients with neurological disabilities.
- To support and possibly direct the neuroscience education and training in the relevant educational bodies.
- To provide advice and consultation to the health authorities.
- To promote invitation of international bodies and professional figures for attendance of the SSNS conferences, Courses and other activities, exposing the local professionals to regional and international experience and reflecting the practices in Sudan.



صورة Dr Osheik Abu' asha - Prof Victor and Prof Saeed Abu Hulaiga KSA

The SSNS is a non-profit society, holding major scientific activities throughout the year, the main of which are:

- The [Biannual International Conference](#) that (once every 2 years).
- The highly ranked and approved [Annual Neurology Training Course](#) (non-profit), for junior doctors. This activity became very popular and attracts many junior doctors under training, and the seats for it are usually overbooked before the dates.

The Neurology Training Course mainly reviews most of the important theoretical knowledge in neurosciences and gives a chance of exposure of the candidates to patients' neurological problems with the objective of improving their clinical skills in assessing and managing these patients in their routine medical practice.



صورة Professor Hussin Abusalih- Dr Hassab Alrasoul Siddig- Dr Muaz/Latif- Dr Mohammed Nagib Abdalla(Vice President) 2008 Marawi.



صورة Dr Muaz A/Latif (Treasure)– Dr Isam Izz eldien & Dr Osheik Abu'asha

In 2010 & 2011 the SSNS actively participated through many of its members in a scientific conference in Medani and held a stroke symposium in Kasala city. The next outside Khartoum SSNS activity is planned to be held in Shandi, and is aimed to cover stroke and epilepsy. These activities are meticulously planned and appraised to spotlight on areas of health needs and will ultimately be carried to much more remote areas of Sudan.

The society is always open to suggestions and external ideas to improve its scope and help achieving its developing objectives.

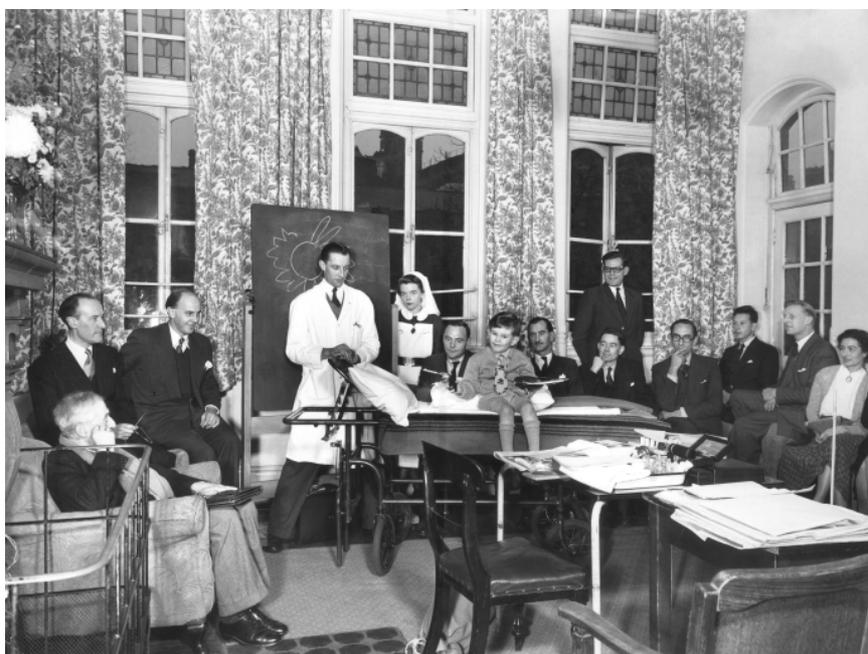
More information can be found on our website. Web site: www.ssns-sd.org

Dr Muaz Abd Ellatif, Dr Isam Izzeldin and Dr Omer Hamid



Photos from our Archives

Group teaching on McDonald Critchley Ward in the mid 1960's



Institute of Neurology, Summer 1976



Back row (left to right): Drs. Ashford, Jiminez, Lozada, Fischer, Ferreira, Tella, Manuel, Niemeyer, Kelman, Cederbaum and Willson
3rd row (left to right): Drs. Douglas, Landis, Matsubara, Wessels, Hajjar, Batinica, Ogun, Buchan, Sabshin and Shires.
2nd row (from left to right): Drs. Ali, Shreterg, Shoo, Al Mousawi, Kopar, Selekler, Singh, Issac, Kam, Szulecka, ?, Rubin, Ifeonye, Abou Saleh, Noaman, Al Rawi and Abboud.
Front Row (from left to right): Drs. Martinez, Yamana, Pottcher, Bormans, Peter Gautier-Smith (DEAN), Roman Kocen (SUB DEAN), Drs. Zageir, Marrero, Lema, Hashimoto and Iwabuchi.

Have you spotted yourself in either of these photos from the Archives? Please get in touch with your recollections.

Front Cover Explained

A few people have asked me why the front cover displays three photographs, so I thought I would explain my reasons below.



I thought it important to include in the banner for the newsletter a photograph encapsulating Queen Square's illustrious past and this photo, taken in 1887, shows four of its most famous physicians; Victor Horsley, Hughlings Jackson, William Gowers and David Ferrier.

I would like to pay homage to Miss Pat Harris who was responsible for forming the Queen Square Alumnus Association. Without her there would be no Alumnus Association. It is also clear to me from all the e-mails I have received, that Pat was very well regarded by you all, and she was one of the reasons why you all have such fond memories of Queen Square.



Professor Ian MacDonald made many important contributions in the field of Neurology, most notably in the clinical science of multiple sclerosis during his 40 years at Queen Square. He was a keen supporter of Pat and her initiative with the Queen Square Alumnus Association, and the support that he offered was invaluable and much appreciated. For our Alumni, who were at Queen Square from the 1960's to the early 2000's, he was also a source of inspiration and I think it fitting to pay tribute to him in our newsletter.