

## QUEEN SQUARE NEWS

## DEATHS

It is with sadness that we report the death of Dr. William Goody, M.D., F.R.C.P who died on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2004. He was born in 1916 and was educated at Winchester College, where many of his subsequent lifelong passions were kindled. He went on to read medicine at University College London where he was to meet his wife-to-be, Edda, also a medical student, on the other side of the dissecting table. After qualifying in medicine their further training was interrupted by the outbreak of war, when both served in the Royal Army Medical Corps. During his army training he had the good fortune to be one of the first physicians ever to prescribe penicillin and observe its spectacular effects.

Good with his hands he planned to become a surgeon but while working on the medical unit at UCH he was to come under the spell of Sir Francis Walshe, one of the brightest stars in the Queen Square galaxy. Walshe appreciated Goody's intelligence and education and, from that point on, the younger man's destiny was written in the stars.

After neurological training at the Military Hospital for Head Injuries in Oxford and at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen Square, he eventually succeeded Walshe, his mentor, as consulting physician and neurologist to UCLH and the National in 1951. He was also appointed consultant neurologist to the Navy. At weekends he would see patients at St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, and King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst and his annual leave was occasionally spent as visiting neurologist to the Island of Mauritius, a link with Queen Square that went back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century after Brown-Sequard's appointment on the National staff.

Goody's main academic contributions were in the field of higher cerebral function and particularly time and the nervous system on which he published papers in the *Lancet* and *Brain*, and finally a book in 1988. He was an intensely private man who avoided committees like the plague and hated any form of humbug or phoniness. Despite his reluctance to "play the game" he was elected to the presidency of the Association of British Neurologists. Later in his career he became interested in the role of trace elements in the causation of neurological disease, combining his childhood study of the Periodic Table with his work and delivering the 8<sup>th</sup> Gowers Memorial Lecture on chemical elements, neurology, and abiopathy. He was also one of the first to become interested in brain failure in private and public life, concluding that the arrival of the CAT scan should lead to routine neurological and psychological assessments for world leaders. These research themes were taken up by several of his admirers, including Oliver Sacks and Lord Owen.

Unlike most neurologists of his generation Goody was amusing and charming, lacking the austere asceticism and obsession regarded as perquisites for success. He was also humane and hated to give bad news, leaving much of that to his juniors. In the highly competitive cauldron of Queen Square his many interests outside medicine often counted against him. None of his contemporaries, however, questioned his erudition. He was a fine potter and organist. He loved calligraphy and had his own Heidelberg printing press, which he used to produce his own distinctive headed paper. He decorated tiles, embroidered, made jewellery, and was a good photographer. He also was into gadgets and computers, frequently heading off after UCLH ward rounds to browse in the new electronic bazaars of Tottenham Court Road. He wrote papers on Lord Nelson's illnesses and was an authority on Stephenson's Rocket. He was fascinated by clocks and often sported several watches on ward rounds.

Generations of UCLH students and Queen Square house staff remember with fondness his idiosyncratic teaching. He never taught the traditional anatomo-clinical methods or hard facts and yet one learned so much. He took teaching seriously, but as he approached retirement worried that his pearls might be falling increasingly on deaf ears as basic neuroscience began to change the face of clinical neurology. His first words to me on starting neurology, were that I should take a week off to read *A la Recherche du Temps Perdu* as this would be far more useful in my career than *Big Brain*, the standard textbook of neurology. Teaching Rounds with Goody were Proustian mementoes in their own right with Bourbon biscuits and watery coffee stimulating

his lively and vivid imagination. Once we went round the circle line looking for neurological signs with the undergraduates; on another occasion we did Charles Dickens' haunts, another of his great loves. After the ward round had finished on John Back Ward at Queen Square we took an antique Chinese vase to be valued at the British Museum, which he thought might be Ming, only for his hopes to be dashed by a brusque valuer stating "19<sup>th</sup> century imitation".

On his retirement he severed contacts with Queen Square but continued to engage in lively discussion about neurological issues with former colleagues and international friends. In his ninth decade he completed a second book, *Neurological Cosmology: the World, the Brain and I*, which encapsulates much of his methods and thinking.

He leaves a wife, Edda; a son, Timothy; a daughter, Frances; and three grandchildren.

(This obituary first appeared in the BMJ of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2005 and was written by Andrew Lees.)

### Robin Osler Barnard 1932-2005

Robin Osler Barnard, retired Consultant Neuropathologist at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery (Maida Vale) died at his home on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2005. Robin was an eminent clinical neuropathologist with a particular reputation in the subject of brain tumours.

Robin was born in London on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1932 into a medical family; his father held the chair in histopathology at St Thomas's. Robin was educated at Highgate School and went to St Thomas' Medical School in 1949, where he also held his first appointments as casualty officer, house physician and pathology trainee. In 1960, Robin joined the Neuropathology Department at Maida Vale led by Professor William H. McMenemey, to complete his pathology training. The Department was an interesting and stimulating place; electron microscopy, CSF electrophoresis and histochemical techniques were introduced in the late fifties and early sixties. The Electron Microscopy Unit was where Michael Kidd discovered the paired helical filaments that compose Alzheimer's neurofibrillary tangles. Others who also worked in the Department in Robin's time included John Prineas (Australia), P.K. Thomas, Forbes Norris (USA), Georges Bischoff (Switzerland), Wendy Grant and Serge Duckett (Canada). Prominent figures of the international neuropathology scene regularly came to visit and included Ludo van Bogaert, Webb Haymaker and Robert Terry. After William McMenemey's retirement in 1970, Robin succeeded him as Head of Department.

Robin soon developed an interest in brain tumours. In one of his early works he investigated the criteria of malignancy in oligodendrogliomas, which was one of the topics that remained a favourite until his retirement. He also wrote a seminal paper on multifocal gliomas, a concept that is still the subject of debate. For his MD thesis he chose a rapidly developing field of brain tumours, cerebral lymphomas. As a sign of his standing in the neuro-oncology field, Robin was asked to contribute to the first classification of CNS tumours produced under the auspices of the WHO, which after several years' efforts was finally published in 1979. At that time, immunohistochemistry as a tool to identify cellular proteins characteristic of certain tumour types had just started to be used and molecular biological techniques were hardly available. This gap could only be bridged by meticulous light and electron microscopic observations and information from tissue culture of tumour cells. As a close friend of Lucien Rubinstein, who was regarded as one of the leading neuropathologists in the world in the brain tumour field and one of the dominant forces in the team producing the classification of CNS tumours, Robin had a significant supporting role that ensured that new ideas could find their way into the WHO tumour classification which, after several modifications, is still in use.

Robin's contributions to clinical neuroscience were not restricted to the tumour field. Well before MRI had become an important tool in the study of MS, he demonstrated that there is a correlation between atrophy of the corpus callosum and cognitive decline in this disease. He was able to do this because he had collected and systematically studied a large number of MS cases, clinically documented mostly by the neurologist Dr R.E. Kelly, who was a close colleague of his at Maida Vale. Robin used classical large bi-hemispheric preparations

for this study that allowed him to take anatomical measurements. His collection of MS cases has remained an important resource for research and was used in at least four subsequent studies published in Brain or Annals of Neurology in the 1990s, well after Robin's retirement.

Robin will be remembered as an outstanding teacher of neuropathology and neurology trainees, who was able to communicate the most complicated morphological changes forming the basis of neurological diseases in a clear, understandable but not at all simplified, manner.

Robin was a well-known and respected figure of the British neuropathology scene. He was elected to the office of Secretary of the British Neuropathological Society, which he held between 1980 and 1985. Subsequently, not long before his early retirement due to his gradually deteriorating health, he turned down the offer of being nominated to Vice-President which, if elected, would have automatically resulted in him becoming the President of the Society.

Perhaps most importantly Robin had a large number of friends, some of whom came from the medical profession; others shared his enthusiasm for vintage cars or were from the village where he had lived for decades. All had the privilege of enjoying his company, intelligence and wit, all share the loss brought about by his death.

(Tamas Revesz)

#### LONDON BOMBINGS ON JULY 2005

It is with sadness that we report that as a result of the bomb in the Piccadilly Line train between King's Cross and Russell Square on the 7<sup>th</sup> July, one of the secretaries from Neuroradiology was killed. Staff have made donations to plant a tree in her memory in Queen Square gardens. Also, Professor Phillip Patsalos was badly injured, losing a leg below the knee and with serious injuries to the other leg; he also suffered from smoke inhalation and was in the Royal London Hospital ITU for a considerable time.

#### RETIREMENTS

The following retired on:

February 2005 -Dr Peter Rudge Consultant Neurologist, NHNN.

30<sup>th</sup> September 2005 - Professor Ed Thompson, Professor of Neurochemistry.

30<sup>th</sup> April 2005, Mr Brian Young, Senior Technician, Electron Microscope Unit

#### PROMOTIONS, HONOURS AND AWARDS

##### PRIZES

PROFESSOR TONY SCHAPIRA was awarded the Erb Duchenne Prize by the German Neurological Society for his work on muscle disease

PROFESSOR ANDREW LEES took up the Presidency of the International Movement Disorder Society, and PROFESSOR NIALL QUINN of its European Section, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL TRIMBLE gave the first Alwyn Lishman lecture and received the Alwyn Lishman award in Athens for services to neuropsychiatry presented by the International Neuropsychiatry Association.

DR. MARK EDWARDS won the EFNS Prize for young neurologists for his paper with Pablo Mir, Ying-Zu Hang, John Rothwell and Kailash Bhatia, entitled "Differential Motor System Plasticity Linked to Development of Dystonia in DYT-1 Mutation Carriers".

DR. KLAUS SCHMIERER was awarded the Langheinrich-Stiftung Foundation Prize for 2004 for MS research.

PROFESSOR PAUL TOFTS was awarded of the BMA book prize in the radiology category for his recent publication "Quantitative MRI of the brain measuring changes caused by disease."

#### DIPLOMA IN CLINICAL NEUROLOGY

The diploma was awarded to 16 students in March 2005; 6 with distinction. The Pat Harris prize was awarded jointly to Dr. Petra Schwingenschuh (Austria) and Dr. Mario Da Cinha Saporta (Portugal).

#### FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Professor John Collinge and  
Professor Uta Frith have both been elected FRS

#### FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Professor John Duncan

#### SENIOR ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS EFFECTIVE FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 05

##### Personal Chairs

Kailash Bhatia (Movement Disorders)  
Nick Fox (Dementia)  
Marjan Jahanshahi (Neuropsychology of Functional Neurosurgery)  
Louis Lemieux (Epilepsy imaging)

##### **Personal Readerships**

Linda Greensmith (Neurophysiology)  
Sanjay Sisodiya (Epilepsy)

#### APPOINTMENTS

PROFESSOR RICHARD HAYWARD has been appointed Professor of Paediatric Neurosurgery at Great Ormond Street, and gave his Inaugural Lecture on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2005 on "That old conflict – balancing certainty with uncertainty in clinical medicine".

PROFESSOR EILEEN JOYCE, Professor of Neuropsychiatry at Imperial College, has been appointed to the Raymond Way Clinical Senior Lectureship at the IoN, with effect from 1st January 2005.

Professor Geoffrey Raisman FRS was appointed to the UCL Established Chair of Neural Regeneration, based at the Institute of Neurology with effect from April 2005. He has been invited to give his Inaugural Lecture early in 2006.

#### MEMORIAL LECTURES AND EVENTS

In May 2005, the Swithin Meadows Memorial Lecture was given by Professor Eberhart Zrenner of the University Eye Hospital in Tubingen on "Channelopathies in Neuro-ophthalmology".

On 16<sup>th</sup> September 2005 a Festschrift and Reception was held to mark the retirement of Professor Ed Thompson.

On 12<sup>th</sup> October 2005, Professor Ray Tallis, Professor of Geriatric Medicine, University of Manchester, gave the Institute's Annual Address entitled "The future of medicine: an ignominious destiny?"

On 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2005 Professor John Collinge gave the Eleventh Worshipful Company of Pewterers' Lecture entitled "Prions and metal: dangerous liaisons".

## OTHER QUEEN SQUARE NEWS

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Clinical service, research and teaching will all benefit enormously from a seven storey clinical neuroscience centre – a £9 million project jointly funded by the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery and the Institute of Neurology/University College London for which the Development Foundation is raising £3 million and the Wolfson Foundation has provided £1 million. The new centre is planned to open in 2007.

### SITU

Improved monitoring for the Surgical Intensive Therapy Unit (SITU) will make a radical difference to its work as long as we can raise £250,000. A new system will display all changes on a single monitor, and provide an electronic report, freeing up nurses and doctors to spend more time working directly with their patients, and make it easier to collect data for research projects.

### NEW SCANNER UNIT

Next year the National Hospital will see the installation of three more MRI scanners. The suite will contain operating theatre facilities, a MRI scanner and an angiography unit. Surgeons will be able to use imaging whilst operating on patients, increasing the information available to them. Neuroradiologists will also make use of these facilities in their treatment of vascular disease. The installation of a 3T MRI at the National will support on-going world class research in the field of dementia and allow it to be translated into clinical practice. The last scanner will be an additional 1.5T system which will increase the hospital's capacity to scan patients, particularly out-patients, thereby reducing the waiting time for routine appointments.

### NEW PARKINSON'S GENES IDENTIFIED

Professor Nicholas Wood and his colleagues at the Institute of Neurology and the National Hospital have found new genes linked to Parkinson's Disease – taking the total number of known genes to five. The genes Pink 1 and LRRK are found in everyone and provide the codes to make two different molecules: Pink 1 encodes Pink1 protein and LRRK2 encodes the protein dardarin (which was discovered as a result of finding the gene). In some cases these genes mutate and eventually cause forms of Parkinson's. They are now using cell models, to find out exactly how this happens. We already know that Pink 1 produces an enzyme which helps activate other proteins. The challenge is to find out which proteins these are because that will mean we can understand the molecular pathways involved and start to establish what exactly goes wrong to cause these cases of Parkinson's. At the same time we also want to understand the LRRK2 gene in the same way. One of the challenges is to see how and if these two genes fit into one common pathway or if they are contributing to disease independently.

### LONDON MARATHON 2005

The National had 18 runners in this year's Marathon and between them they raised more than £50,000 for the surgical Intensive Therapy Unit, for which the Development Foundation is currently seeking £250,000, to upgrade essential monitoring equipment.

CYCLE CUBA 16-25 March 2006.

A new challenge for our fundraisers, this event will take in a beautiful 450 km route around Cuba over 10 days.

Distances and level of difficulties vary daily, making it suitable for cyclists of all abilities. There will be plenty of opportunities to enjoy Cuban culture, including some salsa dancing and a trip to a tobacco factory. Anyone interested should contact the new Chief Executive for the NHNN Development Foundation, Theresa Dauncey whose e-mail is [theresa.dauncey@uclh.nhs.uk](mailto:theresa.dauncey@uclh.nhs.uk)

#### THE NATIONAL GOES NATIONAL ON BBC PROGRAMME

For those of you who have access to the BBC you may be interested to know that the daytime series "City Hospital" has been filmed at the National Hospital.

The cameras follow individual patients (obviously with their full consent and co-operation) and, as Professor Alan Thompson explains, the resulting programmes should help focus attention on neurological and neurosurgical conditions – including some of the less common ones.

Please let me know of any achievements you may have had so that these can be included in the next newsletter.

PAT HARRIS  
ALUMNUS SECRETARY