The Second


# Cowlishaw Symposium

24 October 1998

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons


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# P R O G R A M M E

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Once again the design of the cover of this programme is based on the bindings that add dignity to the volumes in the College collections. Having regard to the present whereabouts of the Bledisloe Cup, it has seemed appropriate to employ Australian colours.



# CONTENTS

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks are due to many people who have helped in the planning and presentation of this Symposium:

- to the Speakers:
  Marius Fahrer;
  Gordon Low;
  D.G. Macleish;
  S.A. Mellick;
  D.A. Simpson;
  A.J. Thurston;
  D. Urquhart-Hay;
  J.P. Royle, who has also agreed once again to conduct registrants on a tour of the College;
- to members of the staff of the College, who have supported the project in various ways:
  Peter Carter;
  Chris Hazell and her colleagues;
  Jane Oliver;
  Colin Smith;
  Ian Burke;
  Jane Murray;
- and to the President and Council, who endorsed the inclusion of the Cowlishaw Symposium in the College calendar.

A.W. Beasley
Reader to the Gordon Craig Library



# INTRODUCTION

The Cowlishaw Symposium is a celebration - a celebration of the College's good fortune, in having so remarkable a collection of historical books; of the inspiration that drove Gordon Craig to endow the library that bears his name, that made Leslie Cowlishaw a bibliophile even in his student days, that prompted John Laidley and Kenneth Russell to urge the acquisition of Cowlishaw's collection; of the dedication that led Russell to devote his life to its care and preservation.

It is also a celebration for those who attend - a celebration of the shared interest in the history of our art, that binds surgeons and others from all over Australasia, and of the fellowship that is created in the sharing.

The success of the first Cowlishaw symposium, two years ago, served to make the event a part of the College's calendar. Several of those who delivered papers in 1996 are back for this second symposium; they are joined by speakers from both sides of the Tasman.

It is proper to acknowledge the support of all those - speakers, College staff, and an appreciative audience, who made a success of the 1996 gathering; for without them there would be no celebration in 1998.

It is also worth recalling the subjects that were presented two years ago, and the speakers involved, because those subjects

cluster round a man who was not himself on the programme - 'The Founder of scientific Surgery', as his memorial brass describes him, John Hunter.

In his Kenneth Russell memorial lecture John Pearn spoke of Nehemiah Grew, who inspired the botanical classification of Linnaeus; and it was Linnaeus' disciples Banks and Solander who travelled with Cook and collected for Hunter. James Guest and Scotty Macleish told of Cheselden and Pott, who taught Hunter; Donald Simpson of Paré who served, like Hunter, as an army surgeon; and Tess Cramond of John Coakley Lettsom, to whom Hunter confided the seriousness of his cardiac state, and with whom he shared an interest in resuscitation.

William Beaumont (of whose work Nate Myers wrote and Durham Smith spoke) exemplified Hunter's injunction to Edward Jenner: 'Why wonder; why not trie the Exp$^{t}$?' Ken Russell, as described by Peter Burke, was like Hunter a surgeon-anatomist - and a bibliophile (for Hunter's books, sold to rescue his wife from penury after he died, realised no less than £634 - a large sum in 1794!)

As Sam Mellick described, Abernethy attended Hunter's lectures. And Everard Home was Hunter's brother-in-law, his pupil, his executor - and ultimately the man who let Hunter down. There is a network of personages, in that material from 1996, who between them cover a very wide sweep of history.

This year's programme also shows certain recurring themes.



The most obvious, in the titles of two papers, is the word 'Revolution' - especially if it is also recalled that the *Fabrica* of Vesalius was published in Basle, when (and because) Basle was a hotbed of radicalism. Vesalius brought anatomy to life, but so in their respective ways did Borelli and Cheselden. And Cheselden's other talents (he designed the old Fulham bridge, for instance) should not obscure the fact that he was a highly respected practical surgeon, as were Guy of Chauliac and Richard Wiseman in an earlier age, and Astley Cooper in a later one. As for Thomas Sydenham, it was his practical wisdom that prompted Russell to call him 'the English Hippocrates'.

Finally (unlike Sydenham who had no part of his College, though it honours his bust and his portrait today) Wiseman was Master of the Company of Barber-Surgeons, Cheselden of the surgeons at their secession, and Cooper of the Royal College into which the company evolved when it assumed responsibility for Hunter's museum; and the two surgeons who cared for Kipling - Bland-Sutton and Webb-Johnson - were themselves presidents of that Royal College.

Given that the choice of book or author is entirely at a speaker's discretion in the planning of this symposium, such common threads emphasise for us the underlying unity of our art.

Programme note by A.W. Beasley, Reader to the Gordon Craig Library.

# PROGRAMME

## SATURDAY, 24 OCTOBER 1998

9.30 am Registration

10 Opening by the President, Mr B.H. Barraclough

*SESSION 1* Chairmen: Mr B.H. Barraclough PRACS
Mr S.A. Mellick

10.05 *The fourth Kenneth F. Russell Memorial Lecture*
Prof A.W. Beasley
A WEB OF WORDS: KIPLING AND HIS FRIENDS
(*The story of a surgeon*, Bland-Sutton 1930)

10.45 Mr Gordon Low
THOMAS SYDENHAM - THE ENGLISH HIPPOCRATES
(*The works of that excellent practical physician Dr Thomas Sydenham*, 1709)

11.20 Morning coffee

*SESSION 2* Chairman: Mr N.A. Myers, Honorary Archivist

11.50 Mr D.G. Macleish
COOPER AND SOME OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES
(*Lectures on the principles and practice of surgery*, Sir Astley Cooper, Bart FRS 1835)

12.25 pm Mr D. Urquhart-Hay
THE KNIFE AND THE STONE
(*A treatise on the high operation for the stone*, Cheselden 1723)

1 Lunch
- Inspection of archival and library displays; tour of College memorabilia (under the guidance of Mr J.P. Royle)



*SESSION 3* Chairman: Prof D.A. Simpson
Chairman, Section of Surgical History

2.15 Prof A.J. Thurston
GIOVANNI BORELLI AND HUMAN GAIT
(*De motu animalium I & II*, Borelli 1680-81)

2.50 Mr Marius Fahrer
POLITICS AND MEDICAL EDUCATION: UNTOLD TALES FROM THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
(*Recherches historiques sur la Faculté de Médicine de Paris*, Sabatier, 1835)

3.25 Mr J.P. Royle
A HISTORY OF SYMPATHECTOMY
(*De humani corporis fabrica*, Vesalius 1543)

4 Afternoon tea

*SESSION 4* Chairman: Prof A.W. Beasley,
Reader to the Gordon Craig Library

4.20 Prof D.A. Simpson
TRAUMA SURGERY DURING THE MILITARY REVOLUTION: THE CAREER OF RICHARD WISEMAN
(*Severall chirurgicall treatises*, Wiseman 1676)

4.55 Mr S.A. Mellick
GUY DE CHAULIAC AND THE MONTPELLIER SCHOOL
(*Cyrurgia Guidonis de cauliaco*, per Simonem Luere 1499)

5.30 Closing remarks

5.45 - 7 pm Cocktail function

# A B S T R A C T S
## AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### A WEB OF WORDS: KIPLING AND HIS FRIENDS - THE KENNETH F. RUSSELL MEMORIAL LECTURE

K.F. Russell, in his *Catalogue of historical books in the library of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons* (1979) comments on 'a small collection of books on the history of medicine from the library of Rudyard Kipling'.

This paper examines the acquisition and content of the collection, Kipling's career, and his influence upon his surgeons and upon a number of writers of distinction. It confirms and perhaps expands on Russell's view that this was a 'gift of more than ordinary interest'.

*Wyn Beasley is a former vice-president of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and chairman of the Section of Surgical History. He is now Reader to the Gordon Craig Library, and in that capacity is the originator and convenor of the Cowlishaw Symposium. During his active surgical career he was a visiting orthopaedic surgeon at Wellington Hospital, and he retains a clinical involvement as consultant surgeon to the Wellington Artificial Limb Centre.*

*In recent years he has turned to writing, and is the author of five books on historical subjects, including a commentary on the* Portraits at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons *and a study of the lives and association of John Hunter, James Cook and Joseph Banks,* Fellowship of Three.

*He commanded the 2nd General Hospital, RNZAMC 1966-69, and was subsequently Director of Medical Services at Home Command in the rank of colonel. He was awarded an OBE in 1971 and the Efficiency Decoration in 1974. He was Colonel Commandant of his Corps 1986-90. He was awarded the Gillies Medal of the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association in 1982, and has been Hamilton Russell and Herbert Moran lecturer in this College.*

*He is now a Professorial Research Fellow at the Central Institute of Technology in Wellington.*



### THOMAS SYDENHAM - THE ENGLISH HIPPOCRATES

Thomas Sydenham (1624-1689) was an English physician at a time when scientists in Europe turned from speculation to experimentation. He discarded the theory that the body was a machine (Borelli, Descartes and others) and also the theory that it was a chemical factory (Paracelsus, Sylvius and others). Although he was aware of Harvey and his papers on the circulation he had taken little notice. Instead, he developed his own approach to medicine by emphasising bedside contact with the sick, and classifying diseases by symptoms.

He did not enjoy good health and was affected by gout at an early age. He wrote extensively including a description of gout. Many of his papers displayed his capacity for astute and accurate clinical observation. In therapeutics, he advocated the use of quinine and laudanum. He also promoted the practice of allowing acute diseases to run their natural courses without intervention. It is possible he had taken note of the writings of the great physicians of the Islamic world.

He did not achieve recognition for his achievements by his contemporaries. Although he was not admitted to Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians during his lifetime, his marble bust now occupies a prominent place in the College in London. He died at the age of 65 and was buried in St James's Church in Piccadilly.

*Gordon Low was born in China, and educated in Hong Kong. In his days as a student and later as a resident at the Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong, the wards of this teaching hospital were named after the giants of British medicine: Addison, Bland-Sutton, Bright, Colles, Hodgkin, Horsley, Hunter, Hutchinson, Lister, Pott, Syme and many others were words used in daily conversation. In such an environment it was impossible not to be imbued with a sense of history. Sydenham Ward was rarely visited by students because it was the tuberculosis ward.*

*Gordon Low came to Australia in 1958 to do his Part I Fellowship. He worked for a time in the Anatomy Department of the University of Melbourne. Here he came under the influence of the late Professor*

*Kenneth Russell, who instilled in him a continuing passion for the history of medicine and surgery.*

*His main interest is the history of Oriental medicine in its relations to East Asian culture. He has presented papers on* Cultural values and practices in the Chinese community in Victoria, *on the* Different disease patterns in the Chinese population, The Chinese bound foot, Opium, *and* Hua T'o - the Chinese surgeon. *At present he is vice-chairman of the Section of Surgical History of the College.*

## COOPER AND SOME OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES

The Gordon Craig Library contains a number of volumes by Sir Astley Cooper. His *Lectures on the principles and practice of Surgery* (1835), a three volume book, has been selected for review because of its generality and its provenance. It gives a good indication of the scope and standard of Sir Astley's practice.

Information from other works has been gleaned which confirms the assessment of Cooper as the leading surgeon and teacher of his era, and an exemplar to be followed even today.

*D.G. Macleish holds the position of Honorary Consultant Surgeon to The Royal Melbourne Hospital, and is a former President of the College. He is an Officer of the Order of Australia, a former James IV Travelling Fellow, and was the first Weary Dunlop-Boon Pong Travelling Fellow to Thailand.*

*He makes, as W.S. Gilbert wrote, 'no pretence to intellectual eminence or scholarship sublime', but has enjoyed reading the works of some of the old surgical masters as found in the Cowlishaw collection. He has prepared an appreciation of Sir Astley Cooper's* Lectures on the principles and practice of surgery *and, having taken other information about Sir Astley into consideration, finds Cooper's lofty position well justified.*

## THE KNIFE AND THE STONE

The history of cutting for bladder stone dates back to 4500-



5000BC. It was practised in India and Persia from very early times but the date of its introduction to Europe is uncertain. In 30AD Celsus described a simple technique which he recommended be used only in children, a method which was used until the 16th century. Over this time lithotomy was generally regarded with disfavour and was left to itinerant operators who specialised in the procedure.

In 1540, an Italian called Marian described a technique, a modification of the Celsus procedure, which was a landmark in the history of urology. Lithotomists now slowly became more proficient at the operation and over the next 300 years a procedure which Hippocrates, 2000 years earlier, had considered dubious. was brought to a high level of performance.

There were many lithotomists of note in this period, but certain ones such as Alghisi of Florence, or the Colot family of Paris who spanned two centuries, or Tolet of Paris or the ubiquitous Frère Jacques stand out. All deserve a mention as does Pepys the diarist, who suffered a bladder stone and survived an operation to remove it.

But the greatest lithotomist of all was an Englishman, William Cheselden, whose skill was unsurpassed. His other great achievement was the advancement of surgical training which followed the separation of the Surgeons from the Barbers in the 18th century in which he played a major role.

*Donald Urquhart-Hay has practised as a urologist in Wellington since 1966. He pioneered renal transplantation in Wellington in 1968, and with the late Dr R.B.I. Morrison, renal physician, established the renal transplant unit at Wellington Hospital in which he was active until his retirement in 1995.*

*His interests outside medicine include a long commitment to the Order of St John, in which he has held high office. He was made KStJ in 1982. He has combined a love of yachting with long service in the Royal New Zealand Naval Volunteer Reserve.*

*He has read many papers on medical history to the Australasian and British Societies of Urology, and his interest in heraldry prompted the Urological Society of Australasia to petition for a grant of arms.*

*Following his retirement from Wellington Hospital he has continued*

*in private practice and presently is working at Palmerston North Hospital as a urologist. In his spare time he looks after his large garden, his clock and sundial collection, horse-drawn carriages and doves.*

## GIOVANNI BORELLI AND HUMAN GAIT

The mechanisms by which man and other animals propel themselves have fascinated observers and experimenters since the time of the ancient Egyptians. The earliest Greek studies were directed towards an understanding of body structure, with a philosophical approach to the propulsive mechanisms - based on theory and surmise, rather than on experimental evidence. There followed a protracted period during the times of the Roman empire when there was a preoccupation with anatomy and surgery in wound management.

A more scientific approach to movement studies came in the 17th century with the beginning of the theoretical period of motion studies. The late 19th century saw the beginning of the experimental period, with the detailed measurement and analysis of both body movement and the forces involved in this movement. The 20th century has seen the fields of kinematics and kinetics expand enormously with the increase in sophistication of the equipment available to study the movement of the human body.

It is, however, Borelli (1608-79) who is credited with being the father of modern biomechanics and whose work did much to put the study of human movement on a scientific basis. He was an Italian physiologist and physicist with a strong mathematical leaning. Born in Naples, he was a pupil of Galileo and his association with Malpighi gave him an interest in anatomy.

*Alan Thurston was born in 1947 and received his schooling in Feilding, New Zealand. He graduated MB ChB (Otago) in 1972, with distinction in anatomy and the David Whyte prize in clinical surgery. He undertook compulsory military training as a student and was commissioned in 1971. He trained in orthopaedics with an interest in hand surgery, in Wellington, and was admitted FRACS in 1980.*



*A research fellowship took him to the Orthopaedic Engineering Centre in Oxford, where he graduated MSc (bioengineering) in 1982, returning to Wellington as a senior lecturer. He was promoted to associate professor in 1996 He was an ABC Travelling Fellow in orthopaedics in 1986, and was awarded the Iverach Postgraduate Fellowship in Medicine in 1991. He is President of the New Zealand Society for Surgery of the Hand, and deputy chairtman of the College's Hand Surgery Interest Group. Apart from hand surgery, he has a special interest in the care of amputees, and in the biomechanical aspects of amputation stumps and prostheses.*

*He commanded 2 (GH) NZ Field Hospital 1986-90, and was awarded the Efficiency Decoration in 1987. He is now ADMS Land Command in the rank of colonel, and honorary surgeon to HE the Governor General.*

## POLITICS AND MEDICAL EDUCATION: UNTOLD TALES FROM THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

The decree of 18 August 1792 abolished Royalty in France. The new Republic also abolished everything Royal, including the Faculty of Medicine of the Royal University of Paris and the Royal Academy of Surgery. For a couple of years there was no teaching, no registration rules, no regulation of the professions of medicine and surgery.

Soon, the need for properly trained health practitioners became obvious. The Republican Convention decreed on 4 December 1794 the creation of three Health Sciences Schools: one in Paris, the other two in Montpellier and Strasbourg. For the first time in centuries medicine and surgery were taught together, in the same school, and the two professions were reunited.

The duration of the course was four years. The professors were recruited from both the old Faculty and the Academy. The first meeting of the Professorial Board was chaired by a surgeon-anatomist, Raphael Bienvenu Sabatier.

During the political changes between 1795 and 1830 all the governing bodies interfered with the teaching principles, admission of students and professorial appointments. The

medical school in Paris was closed in 1822 because of student unrest. However, it has survived and, during those troubled times, produced such illustrious doctors as Laennec and Dupuytren.

*Marius Fahrer was born in 1927 in Bucharest - where Vlad the Impaler, better known as Count Dracula, died in 1476. He came to Australia in 1963, travelling for five weeks 'migrant class' in an Italian liner. He did not eat pasta for the next ten years.*

*In Roumania and France, and later also in Germany, he worked as an orthopaedic and hand surgeon; in Australia he has been a limbfitting surgeon. Throughout his career he has been an anatomist, with his main interest in the anatomy of the upper extremity. His other interests include artificial limbs and splints, classical music and old books.*

*He has recently discovered a treasure of old medical books published during the French Revolution in a second hand bookshop in Camberwell, and is presenting them to the Symposium.*

## A HISTORY OF SYMPATHECTOMY

Andreas Vesalius published his *De humani corporis fabrica* in 1543; a translation into German appeared in 1551 and the second edition in 1555. The Cowlishaw collection has copies of these.

In this work, Vesalius describes the vagus and sympathetic trunk as having a common origin from the brain - which is incorrect, of course.

In March 1852 Claude Bernard cut the sympathetic trunk in the rabbit and demonstrated the resultant increase in warmth of the rabbit's head - a result he had not expected. Surgical attempts at sympathectomy were made subsequent to this.

Norman Dawson Royle conducted a series of experiments on the sympathetic trunks of various animals, in Sydney with John Irvine Hunter, attempting to reduce spastic paralysis. On 1 September 1923 Royle performed the first lumbar sympathectomy on a young World War I veteran to relieve his spastic



paralysis, and observed the increase in warmth of the leg - again, an unexpected result.

Will Mayo from the USA observed Royle operating in Sydney, and subsequently took the operation back to the United States.

Sympathectomy became the main operation for vascular disease for 40 years. The operative approach to the lumbar sympathetic chain was later replaced by chemical sympathectomy. The operative approach to cervical sympathectomy, devised by Royle, has now been totally superseded by a transthoracic video-assisted thorascopic procedure; and recently lumbar sympathectomy has also been performed by a laparoscopic technique.

*John Peterson Royle was born in Victoria, and trained at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, the Alfred Hospital and then in London at St Bartholomew's Hospital. He returned in 1967 to the Alfred, but then took up an appointment in the Professorial unit of the newly created clinical school at the Austin Hospital, Heidelberg. He has been at the Austin ever since, currently as Director of Vascular Surgery.*

*He began College work in 1973, spent 10 years on the Board of Examiners, 9 years on the Court and 12 on the Council. Here he was successively Treasurer, Vice-president and, in 1995-96, President. As treasurer he was heavily involved in the purchase of the Spring Street property; he was also central to the introduction of regulations to protect female trainees, the establishment of the Appeals committee, the formation of the Division of Vascular Surgery, and the commencement of the Rural Surgery training programme. He promoted the meeting between the College and the football fraternity which finally took place in July 1998. His leadership in the production of an AIDS video led to changed theatre practices throughout Australasia.*

*He has been a Hunterian professor at the English College, and has given the Anstey Giles, J.M. Woodward and John Jens lectures. He has produced two award-winning films and published over 100 papers. He has been active in research throughout his career and received the European Vascular Society Research Award for 1997 for his work on the prevention of emboli after endarterectomy.*

*He ws vice-president of the International Cardiovascular Society*

*1993-95, and has been a visiting professor in the UK, USA, Japan and China and an invited lecturer in many hospitals in Australia and New Zealand.*

*His interest in the College's history as represented in its portraits, antiques and memorabilia is widely recognised - and will be manifest in the course of this Symposium.*

## TRAUMA SURGERY DURING THE MILITARY REVOLUTION: THE CAREER OF RICHARD WISEMAN

Richard Wiseman (?1620-76) has been called the first great English surgeon. He stands out from his contemporaries as a racy yet erudite writer, whose surgical thinking was based on an astonishing range of clinical experience, especially in trauma. The Cowlishaw collection contains two fine folios of his chief work *Severall chirurgicall treatises*. One of these is the first edition, appearing in 1676, the year of Wiseman's death, and the other is a later edition published in 1696 under the title *Eight chirurgical treatises*. Wiseman illustrates the surgical techniques of his time by more than 600 brief and vivid case reports, and from these one learns much about the organisation of 17th century surgical services in peace and war.

Wiseman gained much of his experience in the armies of Charles I in the years 1644-46 and Charles II in the Dunbar and Worcester campaigns (1650-51), and in the Spanish fleet (?1654-?1657). He thus experienced war in the latter part of the century in which the so-called Military Revolution took place: the process in which advances in fire power precipitated radical changes in the scale, technology and professionalism of war. Military and naval surgical services evolved rapidly during this period, and recent research has shown that the Spanish monarchy led other European powers in these developments.

*Donald Simpson graduated in medicine in 1949. He underwent neurosurgical training in Oxford under Mr J.B. Pennybacker, and later in the Royal Adelaide Hospital under Mr T.A.R. Dinning. He was Director of Neurosurgery in the Adelaide Children's Hospital 1970-85; he is now emeritus neurosurgeon there and in the Royal Adelaide, and*



*clinical professor in the University of Adelaide.*

*At an early age, he was exposed to the historical novels of Baroness Orczy and G.A. Henty. An elder brother gave him Gibbon's* Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire *and (he claims) his prose style has never recovered. He became addicted to the past, and has remained so: he has written articles on the history of neurosurgery in Australasia and on other historical topics. He is the curator of the museum of the Neurosurgical Society of Australasia. He is a Doctor of his University, and holds its diploma of applied history.*

*He is a foundation member of the Section of Surigcal History of the College, and its present chairman; he is also a member of the Australian Society of the History of Medicine, of the Centre for British Studies of the University of Adelaide, the Maritime History Society of Australia, and the Australian Mining History Association.*

*His chief historical interests now centre on 19th century medical education.*

## GUY DE CHAULIAC AND THE MONTPELLIER SCHOOL

In the Cowlishaw collection there are seven volumes connected with the most notable surgeon of mediaeval times, Guy of Chauliac (1300-68), who adorned the medical school at Montpellier in the south of France. The earliest and most impressive volume is the *Cyrurgia*, the colophon of which, dated 23 December 1499, ascribes it to Simon de Luere. It is a translation from a French printing of 1484 and contains Guy's own surgical writings, together with works of Roger of Palermo, Roland of Parma, Bruno of Longoburg, Theodorico Borgognoni, Lanfranc of Milan, Jesu Haly and Canamusali.

The Montpellier of today is built round the old city whose name was first recorded in 985. It prospered because of its seaport position, so that trade flourished throughout the Mediterranean, and even beyond. It was close to several pilgrim routes and to the Salt Route, and many races thronged its streets. Numerous nearby monasteries provided medical practice and some teaching, and with the admixture of Graeco-Roman and Judaeo-Arab cultures, Montpellier became a leading medical centre. After a century of competitive teaching and on

the recommendation of the papal legate, Cardinal Conrad, Articles of Association for a formal Universitas Medicorum were drawn up on 17 August 1220.

Guy, who developed the plague but survived, followed Henri de Mondeville at Montpellier, where he promoted the status of surgery, human dissection and the importance of anatomical knowledge. He was one of the first great vascular surgeons, advocating silk ligatures for haemorrhage. He operated for hernia and cataract, used traction after reduction for fractures, advised surgical excision for superficial cancers, treated skin ulcers with compression bandages and recommended multiple excisions for varicose veins. He influenced surgical thought for centuries.

'Bold when sure; cautious in danger; kind to the sick; considerate of his fellows; uninfluenced by gain' - thus he defined the ideal surgeon.

*Sam Mellick was born in North Queensland and qualified with first class honours at the University of Queensland in 1948. After gaining his English Fellowship in 1953 he returned to become lecturer in operative surgery and surgical anatomy, and a surgeon at the new Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane, whose department of vascular surgery he founded in 1961 and headed until 1985.*

*He became FRACS in 1960, and has since served the College as chairman of the Board of Examiners, Censor-in-Chief and as senior Vice-president. He was the founding chairman of the Section of Vascular Surgery. His FACS dates from 1967, and he served two terms as a Governor of the American College. He was made an honorary Fellow of the Irish College in 1989, and was the first Australian to be president of the International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery. He is a director of the Michael F. DeBakey International Surgical Society.*

*He has been Windsor lecturer, Hunterian professor, Bancroft orator of the AMA, medallist of the John Loewenthal Society and Colles lecturer and medallist of the RCSI. He was awarded a CBE in 1987.*