

Oral Surgery Club of Great Britain

Annual General Meeting

Guildford

9th November 2023 @ 4.30pm

Agenda

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from 13 members.

2. New members attending:

Abdul Ahmed, Alistair Fry, Mike Perry, Tom Aldridge, Liz Gruber, Niall Mcleod and Ash Messiha were welcomed as new members attending their first Club meeting.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last AGM were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Committee report

Deaths of members: It was announced that former President, Bob Tate (Ipswich) and Ken Ray (Reading) had died. Tributes were made by Murray Foster and Andy Brown respectively, and copies are appended to these minutes. A minutes silence was observed.

Retirements: Austen Smith

Resignations: Hazel Busby-Earle

New members: It was explained that the 2022 AGM approved a list of nine proposed new members all of whom accepted an invitation to join the Club. Several of these new members were attending their first meeting in Guildford.

However, in the immediate period after the AGM, several other new member proposals were made. The Committee agreed to consider and agree these new proposals, on behalf of the Club, to help maintain membership levels after the fallow Covid years. Four additional members accepted invitations to join the Club as a result of this one-off measure:

Committee approved:

Stephen Bond,	Oxford
Abdul Ahmed,	West Middlesex
Michael Perry,	Northwick Park
Mike Shelley,	East Grinstead

The Club now has 51 active members.

For this year, the following consultants were recommended by the committee and approved by members for an invitation to join the Club;

Proposed new members:

Alan Parbhoo. Bedford.

Massimo Maranzano, Manchester.

Uthaya Selbong. Oxford.

Mike Bater. Guildford.

Ann Garrahy. Northern Ireland.

Vijay Santhanam. Cambridge.

Christopher Fowell. Cambridge.

Kanwalraj Moar. Cambridge.

6. Honorary Secretary's report

Membership numbers are seen to be getting back to normal following the Covid hiatus and several retirements. Proposals of young consultants for invitation to become members were always welcome.

The Club website is developing as a source of information about past and future Club activities. It is currently being moved to a new platform to facilitate updating and future maintenance.

The importance of responding promptly to event attendance and menu requests prior to meetings was reinforced, to help meeting organisers make satisfactory arrangements.

7. Honorary Treasurer's Report

An itemised account of receipts and expenditure was presented, and approval proposed by Andy Stewart and seconded by Mike Davidson. It was noted that a good level of sponsorship had been attracted by the recent Presidents which had moderated the costs of the meetings and resulted in a healthy balance for the Club.

8. Honorary Members Report

There was nothing to report.

9. Inauguration of new President

The outgoing President, Bhavin Visavadia, reflected on his year and presented the Semmelweis Medal to Steve Walsh who was inaugurated as the new President for 2023-24.

10. Committee 2023/24

The President elect for 2024-25 is Malcolm Cameron.

Therefore, the Committee for 2023-24 is:

President; Steve Walsh
Hon Secretary: Jon Hayter
Hon Treasurer: Mick Gilhooly
Hon Members Rep: Stuart Hislop
Archivist: Andrew Sadler
Immediate past President: Bhavin Visivadia
President Elect: Malcolm Cameron
Neil Mackenzie
Manolis Heliotis

11. Future meetings

Steve Walsh confirmed that his overseas meeting would be held in Dublin in June 2024. A highlight of the social programme is to be attending the 25th anniversary show of Riverdance.

12. Any other business

New members attending their first meeting were invited to attend the bar following the AGM for a welcome drink with members of the committee.

13. Date of next meeting

The next AGM will be held in Cambridge on 7th November.

Bob Tate

Robert James Tate, alias Bob, died peacefully at home on February 17th this year, of pancreatic cancer, aged 83. Despite a late diagnosis with a poor prognosis, he managed to fit in two more skiing trips.

Bob was our man in Ipswich where, along with Willy Gray, they worked hard including a significant trauma load from both the fishing industry at Felixstowe and local agricultural activity together with the usual road traffic accidents. Prior to Bobs arrival, there was an orthognathic service comprising mandibular procedures which he duly expanded.

Bob qualified LDS in 1963 and BDS in 1964 at Guys, he then qualified with Conjoint and MB BS London in 1968, and finally FDS in 1970. Jobs included an ENT house job at Guys, lecturer in Oral Surgery at UCH and Senior Registrar at Westminster/ Roehampton with Norman Rowe and John Bowerman. He started at Ipswich following the demise of Mike Ireland in the mid 1970's.

He was a keen sportsman, a natural and notable skier who achieved Blue Jacket status for logging one million vertical feet heliskiing and organised many ski groups in Europe and America for consultants and GPs from Ipswich. The deal was you had to be a good skier and give a talk to please the Inland Revenue. He attributed his skiing interest to his Austrian mother.

His other sporting enthusiasm was sailing. I recall that he used to have a Fireball, a trapeze dinghy which was quite handy off the wind. Latterly, he raced at the Royal Harwich in an Ajax keel boat which I saw on his drive when I went to see him at his home near Woodbridge, Suffolk on college business.

He was Regional Advisor to the Royal College and became President of this august body, taking over from me to run a successful meeting at the Belstead Brook Hotel.

I last spent time with him during the week-long ATLS course run by David Macpherson in Chichester where we were the only two consultants, suffice to say we both passed.

His wife was also a consultant in Radiology at Ipswich, and I believe that he had a sizeable number of children and grandchildren.

Those of you who knew Bob would remember his charm and distinctive asymmetric smile.

Murray Foster

Ken Ray

Ken Ray, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 93, has not attended a meeting of our Club in recent times so will only be remembered by the senior members in the room today; but as President of BAOMS in 1985 and Dean of the English Faculty of Dental Surgery in the early 1990's he was well known by those of my generation. He was recognised as a formidable committee man and medico-politician; promoting the interests of our specialty, which was dentally based at that time of course, at the highest levels in the UK and Europe.

Kenneth Richard Ray was born in Oxford in January 1930. He was educated at the City of Oxford High School and undertook National Service in the Army prior to his admission to Birmingham Dental School. He qualified in 1955 and did house jobs in oral surgery at Birmingham and the West Midlands Regional Plastic and Jaw Injuries Unit in Wordsley.

In 1957 Ken was appointed as Registrar, and later Senior Registrar, at the Royal Dental Hospital, Leicester Square and St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner. He was appointed as a Senior Lecturer at the Royal Dental In 1960 and two years later he negotiated a three session NHS contract in addition at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading. This was a time of slow expansion in the specialty and it was 13 years before he was able to increase his sessions and take up a full time NHS post at the Royal Berkshire until he retired in 1992.

Among other things, Ken is remembered as one of the inventors of the versatile Royal Berkshire Hospital Halo. Working with his fellow consultant David Mackenzie, and with the help of an engineer from the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment in Aldermaston no less, their design was published in 1970 and it was rapidly adopted as a reliable method for the external fixation of mid-face fractures which was the norm at that time. They are now a museum piece of course, due to the advent of open reduction and internal fixation, but all the older members here will well remember using Royal Berkshire Halos.

I have already alluded to Ken's contributions as a member, and often Chairman, of various important committees. Prior to our acceptance in the mid 1990's as a surgical rather than a dental specialty this meant involvement – among others – with the GDC, the BDA, the Faculties of Dental Surgery of the Royal Colleges, the Standing Dental Committee of the Department of Health, and various Dental Liaison Committees of the European Community. In all these important spheres of influence Ken was recognised as an astute and firm negotiator, not least for our own specialty. He was a consummate politician and was awarded an OBE in 1996 for his services to the dental profession.

I suppose I only really got to know Ken after I was admitted as a Final FDS examiner in 1992. As a young consultant I confess I initially thought him rather serious, even a bit aloof, but I soon realised that behind this façade was an amusing, kindly man who had a real desire to be of service to the profession.

Ken was an Honorary Fellow of the BDA and an Honorary Fellow of the Glasgow and Edinburgh Dental Faculties. He was awarded the prestigious Colyer Medal of the English College and was a recipient of the Down Prize for his contributions to our specialty. His citation noted that, despite his extremely busy professional life, he was very much a family man; proud of his three children and their achievements; including his son who is an orthopaedic surgeon. His entry in *Who's Who* lists that in what little spare time he had his main recreations were fell-walking and exploring the countryside – in particular its many pubs!

Ken Ray was an eminent senior member of our Club, having been elected in 1978. This afternoon we recall and acknowledge his distinguished career not only as a long serving Consultant, President of BAOMS and Dean of Faculty; but also for defending and promoting the interests of our specialty in the corridors of power.

Andrew Brown