



International College of Dentists

Australasian Section

Newsletter

AUGUST 1985

CONVOCATION 1985

Convocation Brisbane was held on Sunday, 12th May at the newly opened Sheraton-Brisbane Hotel with College President, Bill Spence of Toronto Canada in attendance. It was a great honour to have Bill with us and Convocation members enjoyed hearing from him about College activities in other countries and especially in Canada.

The attendance of 110 was most gratifying and provided a warm and friendly atmosphere for the Induction of New Fellows. Eighteen new Fellows were scheduled for induction but last minute difficulties prevented some from attending. The Ceremony was carried out with dignity befitting the College and allowed an opportunity for each new Fellow to be recognised for his outstanding services to dentistry and the community, before being presented with his College Certificate and Gold Key.

During the Convocation, Fellows and visitors were advised of the culmination of a project which has long been the ambition of the Section - to lend assistance to neighbouring Pacific countries. To the present time assistance has been given to Western Samoa (an informal visit 1982), to Tonga (provision of Journals and equipment) and to Burma (Provision of Journals to restock their Dental School Library) but the Section has aimed for something more significant and with closer personal contact.

Through negotiations with the Department of Health Papua New Guinea, the College has been invited to provide a main lecturer and advisor to a Workshop on "Public Dental Health and the Development of a Community Dental Health Programme", to be held in Port Moresby, 17th-20th June 1985. Professor Des Kailis (a Fellow of the College) from Perth Dental School has accepted this assignment.

It is the hope of the Regents that this might be the first of many such opportunities through which the College can make available its dental expertise to nearby countries.

During Convocation Bill Spence was presented with an Australasian Section Gold Key and a limited edition lithiograph of an Australian Redbreasted Honeyeater - we know Bill is a bird fancier.

Ken Sutherland then announced the new officers of the Section and installed Rupert Dingle as President, in so doing he wished Rupert and his officers well for an enjoyable and productive term of office.

OFFICERS AND REGENTS 1985-1988

President	Rupert J Dingle	Brisbane (Queensland)
Vice President	C Renton Newbury	Melbourne (Victoria)
Treasurer	Sydenham Dobbin	Yass (N.S.W.)
Regents	Spyros Halikis	Perth (W.A.)
	Geoffrey C Hall	Adelaide (S.A.)
Registrar	Robert Y Norton	Sydney (N.S.W.)

Ken Sutherland is Immediate Past President while Gordon Rowell was appointed I.C.D. Executive Councilman.

MEET YOUR NEW PRESIDENT

In the space of some autobiographical paragraphs I would like to introduce myself to the Fellows of the Australasian Section of the International College of Dentists.

I was born in South Melbourne in August 1916, of Cornish descent. The family moved to Queensland in 1919, and I have remained in the deep North ever since, except for RAAF Dental Branch service 1940-45.

After pre- and post-war experience in my father's busy suburban general practice, I transferred to a solo general practice in the City area of Brisbane in June 1948.

A.D.A. administration at State Branch Council and later Federal Council and Executive levels, has absorbed a number of years, 20 and 10 respectively. Offshoots of Faculty Board, Dental Board, Congress Committee, Post-graduate group, and I.C.D., added to the scoresheet.

Nowdays, I regard myself as semi-retired. However, I still feel capable of giving a reasonable account of myself in the eyeball to eyeball hurly-burly of current dental treatment services delivery.

Personal pursuits have all provided me with considerable experience and some degree of expertise, in house building tradework, plus garden design and maintenance and donkey care.

From now on, the most significant service that can be looked forward to, is yet to come about, during my three years as your Section President. It is fully realised that there are some splendidly devoted Fellows to emulate. They are giants indeed, of Australasian and International administration. Their names are already embedded in our history--Gordon Rowell, Derek Freeman, and more recently, Ken Sutherland.

In following in the heavily indented "footprints in the sand of time" of the Australasian Section's triennial Presidents, it has been my privilege to be elevated into their ranks. My illustrious predecessors "wore more hats" collectively, than the total of my years of general practice.

My "wet finger" career has spanned some 47 years since graduation, in March of 1938, not counting two clinical years of Dental School.

Those were two of the very early years of the Faculty in Queensland, of which the Silver Jubilee celebration of its foundation in May of 1935 was observed, resoundingly, as a bumper pipe-opener to the numerous events and functions, associated with the 24th Australian Dental Congress.

In concluding this autobiographical sketch, I would add that I have enjoyed my terms as a Regent, and more recently, Treasurer of the Section. From now on, my intentions are to savour to the fullest extent, the enjoyment of Presidential visits and occasions, such as meeting personally as many of the Australian and New Zealand Fellows as can be managed. With some sort of good fortune, plus a modicum of good management, on Registrar Norton's part, there could be an induction or two as we head towards our own Section's bicentenary poll-count. All that, and maintaining the momentum of the "Internationalism" of the Australasian Section, makes up a reasonable total of expectations.

Brisbane June 1985

Rupert Dingle.

THE NEW REGENTS

Geoffrey C Hall Adelaide S.A.

Geoff has been in private practice in Adelaide since 1959 after having graduated in 1958. Served on A.D.A. (South Australia) council 1963-1974 being President in 1973 and served on A.D.A. Federal Council 1976-1978.

Geoff has given Honorary Dental Service to Royal Flying Doctor Service 1965-80; to Walkerville Boys House 1965-75 and is at present a Member of Board of Management Wakefield Memorial Hospital.

Geoff was elected a Fellow of the College in 1976.

Syd Dobbin Yass N.S.W.

Syd graduated from Sydney University 1950 and apart from a short time after graduation has spent all his practicing life in Yass, a community he has served with distinction in both his professional capacity and in Local Government.

He has been a Fellow of the College since 1972, a member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy and a Past President of the South Tablelands Division (which includes the ACT) of the A.D.A. (N.S.W. Branch).

Cont....

Syd served on Yass Council for 30 years, during the majority of which he has been elected Mayor. In 1956 he was responsible for introducing fluoridation into the water supply of Yass - the first Town in New South Wales to receive this service.

He is a Past President of Yass Apex and Rotary Clubs and has served as President or Committeeman of most charities in Yass. He is at present a Deputy Sherriff of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

Retirements

Derek Freeman who has served the Section in many capacities finished his term as Immediate Past President, while John Lavis formerly Vice President do not seek re-election. The Section and the College owe much to these two Fellows and sincerely thank them for their many hours of service and their efforts to promote the ideals of the College. We may miss, you but we will always remember you.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA VISIT

As mentioned earlier the College was able to provide an advisor to attend a Dental Health Planning Workshop sponsored by the P.N.G. Health Department. Below is set out the report provided by Professor Des Kailis. The College spent approximately A \$2200 in support of this project a figure which the Regents feel is extremely reasonable.

I hereby submit my report of my visit to Papua New Guinea, 15th - 24th June, 1985.

To begin with, the travel arrangements were perfect and the overnight stay at the Hilton on my return leg was much appreciated.

I arrived in Port Moresby on Saturday, 15th June and was met by Dr Andrew Vele who had arranged accommodation for me at the Islander Hotel.

The actual meeting was held at the Kokoda Motel some 35 kilometres from Port Moresby. The reason for this was to have the workshop in a venue with a 'captive audience' situation.

The delegates at the workshop consisted of the Principal Dental Officer, Dr Andrew Vele (Chairman), sixteen Provincial Dental Officers, Dr Wong Hee Diong (W.H.O. Pacific Region), Professor John Jago, Assistant Dean at the Medical School, P.N.G. and myself.

The workshop was opened by Dr Quinton Reilly, the Secretary for Health and the proceedings commenced on the Monday morning. It transpired that the purpose of the meeting was to establish a National Dental Policy.

There were 6 lectures on the programme, of which I gave three:

1. Fluoridation of small water supplies. (Groote Eylandt Studies).
2. Community-based prevention programmes. (Millingimbi).
3. Dental Health Programming. (Socio-economic, religious and cultural influence).

Following the two-day lecture programme, the delegates were divided into two groups. I was chairman of one and Dr Wong the other.

Discussions progressed for two further days and on the Thursday evening and Friday morning the results of our deliberations were collated and a National Dental Policy for Papua New Guinea was documented. In fact, I spent the Saturday putting it together in its final draft.

It was very interesting to note the enthusiasm and manner in which all delegates co-operated and assisted in the establishment of this historic dental plan. It was also pleasing to note the unanimity of thought and establishment of priorities at the provincial level with respect to adult and child dental needs and optimal dental health related to the W.H.O. policy: "Health for all by the year 2000."

The most satisfying aspect of my visit was the recognition that I had something to offer. In fact, both Dr Wong and Dr Vele remarked on many occasions, officially and unofficially, that the International College had chosen the right advisor and the material presented was most relevant to P.N.G.

The climax of my visit was a passing remark from Dr Wong that he was to personally place me on his list of consultants for the Pacific region and that he would like to see me back at the next seminar in July, 1986. The purpose of the 1986 meeting is to establish baseline data and commence community-based programmes in the provinces.

I have attempted to give you as much detail as possible of my visit to P.N.G. and I hope I have achieved just that.

In closing, I wish to thank the International College for selecting me as their first overseas advisor and I can assure you that the authorities in P.N.G. are most appreciative.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

On behalf of the Australasian Fellows, our sincere thanks and congratulations, with regard to a very good Presidential job exceptionally well done, to our Immediate Past President, Professor Ken Sutherland, of Perth. His wisdom and advice, plus his experience, will certainly be availed of, and highly valued, by his successor.

The same descriptive phrase could be used equally about the more than adequate job done by our Registrar, Bob Norton, the stalwart of the Section. His work-load capacity and his punctuality are renowned. He seems actually to thrive on the craft and the graft.

Our Collective thanks to the retiring Regents - Derek Freeman (Past President) and John Lavis (Vice-President and Past Treasurer) - for their Contributions to the furthering of the interests of the Australasian Section.

The Board of Regents of the Section has extended the warmest of welcomes to the recently elected Regents - Geoffrey Hall of Adelaide (S.A.), and Sydenham Dobbin of Yass (N.S.W.), who is now the Honorary Treasurer for this triennium. The wealth of experience and wise counsel of the re-elected Regents, Renton Newbury (Vice-President, Vict), and Spyros Halikis (Perth W.A.), will be on-going assets and welcome contributions to the deliberations of Board meetings.

Last and certainly never least, the ex-officio Board member is the Executive Councilman, already Past President twice over --- of the International College, in addition to the Australasian Section. None other than Gordon Rowell, the undeniably dedicated doyen of Australasian and International Dentistry. Being a greatly respected constitutional navigator of no mean repute, his counsel will be listened to, and heeded.

We cannot fail to make mention of the "new blood" that was injected into the Section's vascular system on Sunday afternoon, 12th May, I would reiterate my words of welcome to the Convocation inductees, both the newly elected, and the "catch-ups", and wish all of them long years of Fellowship.

They just happen to have made some Section History on May 12th, too. The eleven Fellows lined up before the assembled audience, just happen to be amongst the very few Fellows of the Australasian Section who have had the rare distinction of a handclasp, a lapel-ban, and words of welcome individually from the President of the International College, in person.

Which brings us to the highlight of our 1985 Convocation. The presence of President "Bill" Spence of Toronto, a friendly Fellow indeed, was assuredly "an historic occasion". The personal warmth of our Canadian visitor was most evident at all functions - both formal and informal. His sincere concern for the establishment, and the maintenance of truly real "Internationalism" was expressed with the zeal of the Crusaders. Likewise, was his concern for the Commonwealth of the College.

In conclusion, may I leave a prediction with you, concerning our recent Presidential visitor:

At this stage it is not possible to verify this pawky proposition. However, there is a feeling deep down within - (gastro-enteric, if you like) that Bill Spence, after his return home, will later regale his Toronto Rotary Club with his account, plus carousel of slides, of his journey into the scattered regions of the Pacific..... that feeling within tells me that he will present his Australian high-spot, as his nursing a Koala Bear at Bunya Park Zoo, on the northern outskirts of Brisbane.....

And he will support his contention with a couple of colour slides ----- with but one proviso - that the camera lens cap was removed beforehand.

"Good Fellowship to each one of you".

Rupert Dingle

Brisbane June 1985.

24TH AUSTRALIAN DENTAL CONGRESS

An excellent presentation and well up to standard. No wonder it was good - very nearly a College show. Congress Executive Organising Committee was Jim Croker. Arthur Marsden, John Dann, Stan Walsh and Geoff Grundy all are Fellows, while other leading organisers were Dick Kellaway, Peter Ryan and Rom Denham with doubtless many more unsung heroes in the background.

Congratulations Queensland an excellent show.

Did you know that the last five Congress Presidents have been Fellows of the College?

VALEDICTION

By Kenneth J.G. Sutherland Immediate-Past-President

It was quite fortuitous and fortunate that as a youth I attended both School and University concurrently with a student, who after a distinguished academic career in Constitutional law, became a Vice-Cancellor of two Universities and ultimately the Governor-General of Australia.

Some years after the war when we had both become Deans of our respective Faculties we happened to be travelling on the same Qantas flight from Singapore to Australia, although neither of us knew that the other was on board until the plane due to engine trouble was forced to make an unscheduled landing in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Expressing surprise at seeing me as we both made our way to the transit lounge of the airport, my colleague enquired as to whether I was sitting next to anyone interesting on the plane. On informing him that my travelling companion was none other than the Archbishop of Madras, clad moreover in his purple robes of office, my friend commented "how very interesting; does he believe in God?" Being unable to answer this apparently preposterous question, I enquired as to the reason for asking it. Well he replied, "when people get that high up in the world they sometimes forget what they are there for".

This profound comment gives ample cause for reflection because it can have wide application extending even as far as our own College; for surely many of us coast along as proud Fellows of this illustrious institution almost entirely oblivious of the very reasons for its existence. Periodically therefore we should remind ourselves of these and in so doing address the very core of our raison d'etre, this being our College objectives, so very carefully compiled by our founder fathers and so very sound that since enunciated nearly sixty years ago they have remained virtually unchanged.

During my three-year term as President of the Australasian Section, my Colleagues and I have seriously addressed these objectives, and I am happy to report not without some progress having been made in activating quite a number of them.

Without doubt, the promotion of fellowship is one of the most important objectives of the College and in recent times this activity has been very successfully pursued by holding regular dinner meetings of Fellows in the various Australian capital cities, and for the first time in the history of the Section, an Induction Ceremony in Auckland, New Zealand. Moreover, the introduction of regular publications of a Section Newsletter has been very well received and has made a notable contribution to the promotion of fellowship. In pursuing the College objective "to cultivate and foster cordial relations amongst those engaged in the profession of dentistry" we can therefore be said to have made considerable progress in Australasia.

In our "endeavour to unite outstanding members of the dental profession for the purpose of fostering the growth and diffusion of dental knowledge", this Section has indeed been active in the Asian-Pacific region where perhaps our colleagues have fewer opportunities than we have of keeping abreast with recent advances in dentistry. With this objective well in mind, through the generosity of our Fellows and a tireless Registrar we have been able to send quite a quantity of dental literature and even some items of equipment to several dental institutions in neighbouring countries. In addition, and quite recently, we have finalized arrangements for a senior academic and Fellow of the College to attend as both consultant and lecturer, a Dental Health Seminar to be held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea when some thirty dentists from all over the country are expected to be present. Further projects of this nature can be confidently anticipated in the foreseeable future and will be activated as and when the objective is seen to arise.

The importance of the objective "to encourage post-graduate study and research in the field of dental science" - has always been uppermost in our minds and one way in which this has been achieved has been by holding our Convocations concurrently with Australian Dental Congresses when many scientific papers are delivered by both National and International lecturers of fame. Following this pattern also, the first formal meeting of the College ever to be held in New Zealand took place at the time of the Biennial Scientific Meeting of the New Zealand Dental Association. In addition, each State has been encouraged to hold its own scientific meetings, or where numbers are insufficient, it has been found both possible and successful to arrange for Fellows to be officially invited to scientific meetings of other organizations. Apart from these however, and virtually by definition, Fellows are already highly motivated in the direction of post-graduate education - this being an important criterion for selection in the first place, and it is a common experience to find a high percentage of Fellows attending most of the significant scientific dental meetings held annually around the world.

In addressing our College objective "to recognize conspicuous and meritorious service to the profession", during the past three years the Board of Regents has been active in inducting a number of outstanding dentists - some five at the New Zealand Meeting previously referred to, and ten at the Convocation held in Brisbane this year at the time of the 24th Australian Dental Congress; and there are more in the pipeline.

Cont....

Prior to 1964, the year the Australian Section (as it was then known) received its autonomy, there were only nine Fellows of the College in the whole of Australia. By 1960, the number had increased to 39 and today the total membership for Australasia is 191. It will be appreciated therefore that since the birth of the Section, on average only nine dentists per year have been admitted to the College which is a sure indication of the high standard of professionalism required of candidates for entry. Moreover, when it is realized that there are at least 10,000 dentists in the Section (latest available figures) this quality becomes even more significant.

At the time of writing it can therefore be said that already we have gone quite some distance in our endeavour to meaningfully address the objectives of the College, thus helping to realize our Section's first and probably most important one - "to advance the Science and Art of Dentistry for the health and welfare of the public". And surely this is what our College is fundamentally about, but as distinct from the objectives of the dental profession per se, ours lie at the truly international level.

I now hand over to a new President, Dr Rupert Dingle of Brisbane and a new Board of Regents firmly convinced that this mobilization of the Section will continue to gather momentum and fully confident that our newly elected officers "know what they are there for"

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Fellows Honoured at Congress

Congress is the time for the A.D.A. to recognise outstanding services to the profession and amongst those honoured in Brisbane College Fellows featured prominently. Honorary Life Membership was bestowed on Reg Hession and Stan Kings; Meritorious Service Awards given to Peter Barnard and Robyn Woods; while Tom Speed (N.Z.) was made an Honorary Member. Congratulations to you all.

Queen's Birthday Honours

The College has extended its congratulations to four persons who have given outstanding service to dentistry. Honoured in the Queen's Birthday list were:

Members in the General Division of the Order of Australia (A.M.) Reg Hession, Pymble N.S.W. a past Federal President of the A.D.A. for his services to the dental profession.

Hugh Kennare, Brighton S.A. for his services to the public Dental Health Services in South Australia. Hugh has recently done a survey for the Seychelle Islands.

Andrew Vern - Barnett M.B.E. - Chatswood N.S.W. for his services to the welfare of people with disabilities, especially autistic children.

Medal in the Order of Australia (O.A.M.) Ray Newland, Bateau Bay N.S.W. - the long serving Secretary of A.D.A. (N.S.W. Branch) who is now enjoying retirement - for his outstanding services to organised dentistry.

SUBSCRIPTION 1985-1986

Board of Regents had to consider two significant factors when setting subscription for 1985-86. First was an increase in Capitation Fee to the College from U.S. \$10 to U.S. \$15 the first increase for six years, and second the relative value of the U.S. and the Australian Dollar

Subscription has been structured as follows:-

A \$25 fee to the Section plus U.S. \$15 Capitation Fee to the College.

The Registrar will compute the total value in round terms in Australian dollars at the time when subscriptions are due. Subscription notice is enclosed with this Newsletter.

INDUCTEES

The following dentists were formally inducted into the College at the Brisbane Convocation:-

AUSTRALIA:

KEN FRANCIS ADKINS, GERALD RICHARD DICKINSON, DENIS JOHN HAGARTY, ROBERT GORDON HENRY, RICHARD WALLYS KELLAWAY, JOHN HENRY MULLER, CHARLES MENZIES SAVAGE, ERNEST WALTER WAGNER, HARRIS KEITH LEWIS, LEO PETER RYAN, KEVIN EDMUND VERSACE.

NEW ZEALAND

KENNETH CARN GILLESPIE

AUGUST 1985

Robert Y Norton
Registrar

183 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY N.S.W. 2000.