NSW Foundation Fellows

Four of NSW’s 10 foundation Fellows of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FARACS) attended the NSW Regional Committee’s 21st anniversary dinner at the Wentworth Hotel in Sydney on November 2, 1973.

The dinner was one of several held in 1973 and followed a successful 21st anniversary dinner in Melbourne on June 30 for the entire Faculty, a 21st anniversary buffet luncheon in Christchurch, New Zealand on September 13, and Queensland’s 21st anniversary dinner on September 21.

Arrangements for the Sydney dinner were entrusted to Faculty historian Dr Gwen Wilson. Foundation Fellows in attendance were Dr Harry Daly, Dr Phillip Jobson, Dr Andrew Morgan and Dr Leonard Shea. The other foundation Fellows were Dr Ivor Hotten, Dr Lucy McMahon, Dr James McCulloch, Dr Stuart Marshall, Dr Clive Paton and Dr Ivan Schalit.

NSW’s foundation members of the Faculty were also celebrated: Dr Anthony Balthasar, Dr Noel Bartrop, Dr Charles Bernard, Dr Janet Bowen, Dr Christopher Davidson, Dr Neil Francis, Dr Marie Hill, Dr Arthur Hodge, Dr Walter Keller, Dr Frank Leventhal, Dr Lawrence McDonnell, Dr Brian O’Shea, Dr John Radcliff, Dr Charles Sara, Dr Winston Smith, Dr Robert Speirs, Dr John WIndeyer and Dr Gwennifer Wilson.

The following comprises brief biographical outlines of the NSW foundation Fellows.

Dr Harry Daly MB ChM (Syd) 1918, FRACP 1947 was a significant figure in the founding of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1952. Dr Daly was one of the founders of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists in 1934 and had a close interest in anaesthetic education. He stated in 1947: “We all hear complaints from surgeons about the poor quality of present-day anaesthesia, they attribute this to lack of teaching; but we know that it is due to the fact that specialised methods are not available to the average general practitioner – he has not the time to study or practise them”.1

A member of the founding group of FARACS, vice-dean of the Faculty from 1953-55 and also member of the FARACS board until 1955, Dr Daly was awarded the Faculty’s inaugural Orton Medal in 1969 and awarded honorary fellowship in 1970. Dr Daly drafted historical notes in 1971 about the events leading to the formation of the Faculty in 1952.2 He died in June 1980, and his work is honoured through ANZCA’s Harry Daly Research Fellowship, offered since 1982 (known as the Harry Daly Research Award since 2011), and the Harry Daly Museum at Australian Society of Anaesthetists offices in Sydney.

Dr Phillip Jobson MB BS (Syd) 1935 became a senior resident medical officer in anaesthetics at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPA) in Sydney in 1936. He also began general practice in 1938 and in 1939 was appointed an assistant honorary physician to the RPA and anaesthetist to the department of neurosurgery, replacing Dr Harry Daly who had fallen out with the then new director of the Department of Anaesthetics, Dr Ivor Hotten.

Following the establishment of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, RACS, in 1952 Dr Jobson served as an inaugural member of the NSW State Committee of the Faculty from 1955 onwards, along with Dr Stuart Marshall and Dr Andrew Morgan, as well as Dr Charles Sara and Dr George Davidson. Dr Jobson, Dr Marshall and Dr Morgan served until 1958. In 1959, Dr Jobson succeeded Dr Hotten to become the third director of anaesthesia at RPA until his retirement from this position in 1971. During this period Dr Jobson instituted a visiting professorship to the hospital’s Department of Anaesthetics, which is now known as the Jobson Visiting Professor, and expanded this program with an annual Jobson Symposium arranged by the department for all Australasian anaesthetists. Dr Jobson retired from private practice in 1985. In 2002 he received a special invitation to attend the ANZCA Annual
Scientific Meeting in Brisbane. He died in 2005, the last Australian foundation Fellow (at that time survived only by Dr Margaret Smith of Christchurch).

**Dr Andrew Distin Morgan**, MB ChM (Syd) 1924, DA RCP&S (London) 1936, FIGA (USA) 1939, OBE, was a paediatric specialist regarded as one of the practitioners who, along with Dr Margaret McLelland and Dr Mary Burnell, laid the groundwork for paediatric anaesthesia in Australia.

Dr Morgan travelled to the UK in 1938 to obtain his anaesthetic qualification following the rejection of his application for an honorary appointment at Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children (RAHC) in Sydney. He visited Dr Ivan Magill in the UK, and in the US visited Dr Waters, Dr Lundy and Dr Rovenstein. At this time, a portable anaesthetic machine was built to Dr Morgan's specification by A. Charles King Proprietary of London.4

Professor Ross Holland recalled at the October 1986 meeting of the board of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons: “(Dr Morgan) took up his appointment at RAHC in 1940, and was associated with the great surgical developments which took place there in the early post-war period, particularly in thoracic, and later cardiac surgery. It was a source of pride to him that the first 100 cases of ductus ligation which he and TY Nelson managed were all successful, at a time when mortality elsewhere was up to 30 per cent. He founded a private group practice in anaesthesia in Crows Nest, which still flourishes, and was very active in voluntary service to the Sunshine Homes for handicapped children, an association of which he was president for many years and for which he received his OBE.”

**Dr Leonard Shea** MB BS 1937 (Syd), DA 1946 (Syd) became the fifth dean of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1964. Dr Shea was born in Jondaryan, Queensland, in 1912, and commenced teacher training in 1930 with a view to pursuing a career in music. He later switched to the Sydney University’s medical school where he graduated in 1937. Along the way he was awarded the Sydney University Busby Musical Scholarship on Carillon and Organ. He entered general practice at Kings Cross, Sydney, in 1940 and then served in the Australian Imperial Forces from 1942-46, which included two years’ overseas duty. After World War II, he entered private anaesthetic practice with the group founded by Dr Harry Daly and Dr Stuart Marshall.

Dr Shea was the first chair of the Court of Examiners of the new Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and Dr Ross Holland noted in 1987 that the high standards were a consequence of Dr Shea’s shrewd recognition of the requirements for the Australasian Faculty to be treated as an equal by her English counterparts.5 Dr Shea was a member of the Faculty board from 1956-68, vice-dean of the Faculty 1961-64, president of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists from 1962-63, and dean of the Faculty 1964-66.

Dr Shea received the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Medal in 1980 and Faculty dean Dr Bryan Dwyer’s citation included the following: “During [his] early years of specialist practice, he lived a frenetic professional life taking on one commitment after another as individuals and institutions asked for his help and advice... Len Shea became a foundation Fellow of the Faculty in 1952 was elected to the board in 1956. He, and his colleagues on the board at the time, were both the architects and the builders of the Faculty as we know it today”.6 Dr Shea died in 1987.

**Dr Ivor Hotten** MB ChM (Syd) 1923, Diploma in Anaesthetics, Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons (London) (DA RCP&S) 1939, MRACP 1940, FRACP 1948 took up general practice in Strathfield, Sydney, before accepting an honorary anaesthetist position at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPA), Sydney in 1930. He became the hospital’s tutor in anaesthesics in the same year. Dr Hotten was, along with Dr Harry Daly, one of the seven
anaesthetists who met in Hadley’s Hotel, Hobart, in January 1934 during the Australasian Medical Congress (British Medical Association) to found the Australian Society of Anaesthetists. Dr Hotten officially served as director of anaesthesia at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital from 1939-59, but effectively began in 1934.

Dr Hotten maintained a keen interest in postgraduate medical education and was appointed lecturer in anaesthetics to the University of Sydney. With his and Dr Daly’s urging, a diploma in anaesthetics was introduced at the University of Sydney in 1944. ANZCA Library holds a copy of Dr Hotten’s 1981 volume *Memoirs of the ‘Old Master’, a Valedictory Contribution*, which includes tales of medical training at Sydney University during World War I, the formation of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists, and developments in student and postgraduate teaching in the Department of Anaesthetics, Royal Prince Alfred, Sydney, among other subjects. Dr Hotten was a controversial figure in many ways and an example of his practical examination technique at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital was recorded by Dr Gwen Wilson. Dr Hotten died in July 1987.

**Dr Lucy MacMahon** MB ChM (Syd) 1924 was born in Cootamundra NSW. After gaining her medical degree at the University of Sydney, Dr MacMahon undertook further study in London and was appointed to the staff of St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney, in 1938 as an honorary anaesthetist. Dr MacMahon’s name appeared regularly in newspaper accounts of Sydney social events throughout the 1920s and 1930s. During World War II St Vincent’s was staffed only by Dr Harry Daly, Dr George Duncan and Dr MacMahon, so it was a very busy time for each of them. After the war, Dr Stuart Marshall returned and Dr Leonard Shea joined the staff, and Dr MacMahon worked extensively with her surgeon brothers Dr Eddie MacMahon and Dr Joe MacMahon.

In July 1951, Dr MacMahon was invited to join the new Faculty as a foundation Fellow and wrote back in the affirmative on August 22. At this time Dr MacMahon shared her professional office address with Dr Harry Daly at 143 Macquarie Street, Sydney. Soon afterwards, Dr MacMahon retired from anaesthetic practice to marry a Sydney barrister, Louis Hogan. She moved with her husband to a property near Bathurst before the Faculty was officially founded in August 1952, although she returned to Sydney in the 1970s after her husband’s death. Dr MacMahon died in 1996.

**Dr James McCulloch** MB ChM (Syd) 1924, MRACP 1945, DA (Syd) 1950, became the fourth dean of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1961 and served in this position until 1964. Dr McCulloch undertook his basic anaesthetic training in England in the early 1930s and, in 1934, while working in general practice in North Sydney, obtained a post as an honorary anaesthetist at St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney, where he met Dr Harry Daly and Dr Stuart Marshall. During World War II, he served in Palestine, Gaza, New Guinea and Australia. One outcome of Dr McCulloch’s war service was his survey of anaesthesia in the Australian Imperial Force, which covered 5207 cases between April 1940 and October 1945. He subsequently entered specialist practice in a group partnership with Dr Harry Daly and Dr Stuart Marshall while also working at St Vincent’s and Royal North Shore hospitals in Sydney.

Dr McCulloch also served the Australian Society of Anaesthetists for many years. In 1946 he was elected honorary secretary-treasurer to succeed Dr Geoffrey Kaye. He served as president from 1954-55. Dr McCulloch died in 1984. Dr Douglas Joseph wrote in an obituary article of “his amazing ability to encourage young aspirants into anaesthesia without any hint of coercion or false representation of the specialty”.

**Dr Stuart Marshall** MB 1925, ChM 1935 (Syd), DA RCP&S (London) 1938 was born at Turramurra in Sydney’s northern suburbs, son of the first Presbyterian minister at nearby Pymble. As a youth living in the Windsor district he joined the Australian Imperial Force at the age of 14 for a short time before his parents intervened, subsequently rejoining at age 16
Dr Marshall joined the Australian Society of Anaesthetists in 1936 and became president from 1951-52 as work was in full swing to found the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. His presidential address in 1952 touched upon the formation of the new Australasian Faculty, which (it was anticipated) would be the examining body and would administer the Australian diploma in anaesthetics. Among other roles, he envisaged that the Australian Society of Anaesthetists would undertake the postgraduate education of anaesthetists and prepare candidates for the examination.10

Dr Marshall was a member of the NSW State Committee FARACS from 1955-58 with two other foundation fellows, Dr Phillip Jobson and Dr Andrew Morgan. Dr Gwen Wilson wrote in 1987 that the influence of Dr Marshall and Dr Daly "was enormous and their recruitments to the specialty quite selfless… they followed their recruits with interest and encouragement and both, to the end of their lives, were always available for advice and delighted with anaesthetic gossip from home and abroad."11 Dr Marshall died in March 1967.

**Dr Clive N Paton** MB ChM (Syd) 1922, DA (Syd) 1945, originally from Coonabarabran in NSW, worked from a Macquarie Street, Sydney, address for many years. Dr Paton published a number of articles on anaesthesia and assisted with the diploma in anaesthetics course at the University of Sydney during the 1940s.12

Dr Paton was keenly interested in the procedures for electing foundation Fellows and foundation members to the new Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, during the planning stages in 1951 and three of his letters addressed to Dr Stuart Marshall, as president of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists, were published in full in 2004.13 Dr Paton retired from practice in January 1965 due to ill health, and passed away in 1966. Dr Paton’s son Anthony was elected to fellowship of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1965.

**Dr Ivan Schalit** MB BS (Melb) 1936, DA RCP&S (England) 1946 was the first staff specialist anaesthetist in Australia, and established the Newcastle Department of Anaesthesia. Dr Warren Gunner, his first registrar, went on to have a notable career at St Vincent’s Hospital in Sydney, establishing their intensive care unit.

One of Dr Schalit’s celebrated interventions is now regarded as the “birth” of intensive care in Newcastle. Dr Ross Kerridge of the John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle relates the tale: “In 1955 a woman was admitted to Royal Newcastle Hospital with complications of a non-medical gynaecological procedure. After two days she developed clinical tetanus. Initial management with barbiturate sedation did not control her convulsions satisfactorily. After 18 hours the decision was made to manage the patient using patient curarisation, intubation and ventilation. This intervention was based on the then-recent reports by Lassen and colleagues of management of polio victims in Copenhagen. In Australia, however, long-term ventilation with curare was virtually unknown. Initially ventilation was by hand. Dr Schalit then assembled a mechanical ventilator from anaesthetic apparatus, personal household appliances, and his son's Meccano set. Using this apparatus, and solving problems encountered as they occurred, the patient was then ventilated for 25 days.”14

During his distinguished career, Dr Schalit created two post-operative wards at the Royal Newcastle Hospital, which were the forerunners of recovery and intensive care wards. He
retired from the Royal Newcastle in 1968 after 20 years’ service. Dr Schalit passed away in November 1986.

By Fraser Faithfull, ANZCA Archives, with assistance from Dr Richard Bailey, Professor Barry Baker and Professor Garry Phillips. March 18, 2014.

REFERENCES

(1) Daly, HJ, “An address” as retiring president of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (British Medical Association), Sydney, 1947, printed in Medical Journal of Australia, August 30, 1947, p253.

(2) Daly, HJ, “Recollections based on documents, letters and discussions which led to the formation of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, RACS”, original typescript held ANZCA Archives, Series 152 (Gwen Wilson Collection), file 176; see also Daly, HJ, “Anaesthetics over three decades: A reminiscence”, Medical Journal of Australia, 21 January 1956, p77.

(3) Dr Jobson is pictured with Professor Barry Baker and Dr Richard Walsh in the June 2002 edition of the ANZCA Bulletin, Annual scientific meeting report, p46. Dr Margaret Smith is also pictured on this page. Further reading: refer obituary by Professor AB Baker, ANZCA Bulletin, August 2005, pp18-19.


(6) Dwyer, B, “Presentation of the Faculty of Anaesthetists RACS Medal”, Dean's Newsletter, FARACS, April 1980, held ANZCA Archives.


(12) Dr Paton’s published articles include “Anaesthesia in labour and caesarean section”, Medical Journal of Australia, November 15, 1947, pp589–592; refer Wilson, G (2004) op cit, p126 regarding Dr Paton’s assistance and the assistance of other NSW specialists with the University of Sydney diploma in anaesthetics course.
