

## Review of History of Radiology Session UKRC Radiology Conference 2017, 13 June, Manchester.

Reviewed by Dr Arpan K Banerjee, Past Chairman British Society for the History of Radiology.

This year's annual congress was held in Manchester Conference centre a couple of weeks after the city had been subject to the dreadful bombing at the end of the Ariana Grande concert in Manchester Arena. This is the first time in living memory that bags were searched at the conference entrance – a sad reflection of the modern world we live in.

The history session consisted of three talks. Prof Adrian Thomas opened with his talk on 'Sebastian Gilbert Scott and the treatment of ankylosing spondylitis'. Scott worked at the London Hospital. Scott had an interest in medical jurisprudence and skeletal variations. He published a book on this in 1931. He pioneered the importance of accurate interpretation of radiographs in compensation cases and insisted on quality radiographs of the injury being obtained and the importance of being familiar with variations in appearance between normal and abnormal when interpreting these. He was a great pioneer in medico-legal reporting. Scott was, like many radiologists of his era, also interested in radiation treatment of medical conditions including asthma and ankylosing spondylitis.

This talk was followed by Dr Arpan K Banerjee's talk on Neville Samuel Finzi (1881-1968). Finzi the pioneering radiotherapist from St Bartholomew's Hospital was a great medical benefactor leaving a large sum of money to the radiology section (he was President of the section in 1943/44) of the Royal Society of Medicine in London. This money today funds the Finzi Prize for best paper presented at the Finzi Prize meeting. He pioneered high voltage radiotherapy in Britain and became an expert on throat cancer treatment. His many interests included mountain climbing, lawn tennis and music. Like Scott, Finzi also used radiation treatment for arthritis.

The final talk of the session was Prof Thomas discoursing on 'Philately and Tuberculosis'. The talk was illustrated with stamps of Koch, Calmette, Guerin and other pioneers in addition to ones of sanatoria, miniature radiography, radiography seals and stop TB campaigns.

All who attended contributed to a lively discussion of the topics at the end and the session was accompanied by the annual radiology history stand in the conference venue.