

## Review of History of Radiology Session UKRC Radiology Conference 2018, 2nd July, Liverpool.

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

This year's annual congress returned to Liverpool and again the British Society for the History of Radiology organised a successful session of talks attended by a wide range of delegates. Opening the session with Liz Beckman in the Chair was Francis Duck who spoke on the early British radiologist William Hampson (1854-1925). Hampson trained in medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London qualifying in 1896. He lectured in Physics for a short time at University College and became a specialist in medical electricity to the Children's Hospital in Bethnal Green in 1910. He published a paper in Nature on refrigeration and also wrote on foreign body localisation. In 1905 he published a book titled 'Radium Explained'. Hampson was a socialist who in 1907 wrote 'Modern Thralldom; a new social gospel' laying out his views on how education and healthcare should be looked after by the state a vision that was to be realised long after his death in 1948 with the birth of the NHS.

The second talk by Francis Duck was titled British Mobile X-ray units in World War 1. Fund raising by institutions as diverse as the Hull Royal Infirmary and Cheltenham Ladies College and the Red Cross were key to the success of this project. The units were deployed in France, Salonika and Mesopotamia and the difficulties involved in their operations were described.

Dr Arpan K Banerjee spoke on 'The sixtieth anniversary of Ian Donald's classic paper on ultrasound'. Donald trained in medicine at St Thomas's Hospital and being interested in obstetrics rose through the ranks working at the Hammersmith hospital before being appointed Chair of Midwifery in Glasgow. His collaboration with Tom Brown of the engineering firm Kelvin Hughes led to the first images from the ultrasound machine published in the Lancet in the classic paper in 1958. Donald was showered with honours. The practice of modern medicine was changed with this discovery which today plays a part not only in obstetrics but also a wide range of surgical and medical practice.

The next lecture also by Dr Arpan K Banerjee on 'Eponymous signs in plain film reporting — who were the eponymists?' concentrated on the famous people who had given their names to radiological signs on the Chest X-ray. A brief overview of the lives of Peter Kerley, Ben Felson, Pancoast, Fleischner, Westermarck and others were presented along with the illustrations of their signs and contributions. Adrian Thomas with Mark Kynaston presented a poster exhibit on 'Dawson Turner and the development of Radiotherapy'. Dawson Turner who trained in medicine in Scotland and subsequently became physician in charge of the X-ray department at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary was one of the earliest doctors to treat lymphosarcoma by radiation in 1913. He died a radiation martyr having lost the fingers of his left hand to radiation.

Adrian Thomas with Mark Kynaston also presented an electronic poster on 'Electrotherapy and the origins of radiotherapy'. The early work in this field in Glasgow and Edinburgh was presented in this poster.

The BSHR stand this year hosted an exhibition on the life of Ian Donald to complement the talk held in the session. Thanks to the BMUS archive for loaning the posters.