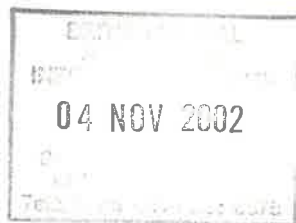


**THE ORAL SURGERY CLUB OF
GREAT BRITAIN**

JOHN C. BRADLEY

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Lilian Lindsay Memorial Lecture

**5 May 2001
British Dental Association Annual Meeting
Harrogate**

LINDSAY SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF DENTISTRY

**A HISTORY OF
THE ORAL SURGERY CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN†**

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Honorary Archivist



† This history was given as the annual Memorial Lecture of the Lilian Lindsay Society at the Annual Meeting of the British Dental Association, Harrogate, on 5 May 2001.

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A HISTORY OF THE ORAL SURGERY CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

Lilian Lindsay was a remarkable woman who, quite clearly, was single-minded in all that she did. She achieved many "firsts" being the first woman registered dental practitioner in the United Kingdom. Born and educated in London, she had to go to Edinburgh to acquire her training and diploma. Her own headmistress, the formidable Miss Buss, tried to prevent her from pursuing dentistry by withholding her school scholarship, University College Hospital refused to have much to do with her, pointing out that the Royal College of Surgeons of England did not grant diplomas in dentistry to women. But at least her contact at University College Hospital did advise her to go north of the border where the Scottish College held more liberal views. These were the attitudes of only one hundred years ago.

She wrote many articles and papers on dentistry, particularly the history of the practice of dentistry and leading dental personalities. These contributions were marked by the meticulous research and scholarship that lay behind them all. She was a master of the English language and taught herself French, German, Latin and some Anglo-Saxon with the result that she translated a large number of foreign papers into English.

She was the first Librarian of the British Dental Association and a sub-editor of the *British Dental Journal*, being President of the Association in 1947 and made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1946. This is only a small sample of the achievements and awards that were bestowed on her. She died in 1960 at the great age of eight-eight years, much loved by the dental profession.

* * *

The Oral Surgery Club of Great Britain was the concept of one man, Rupert Sutton Taylor (*Figure 1*). He was probably the first person in the United Kingdom to restrict his practice to oral surgery and call himself an oral surgeon. Inevitably the character and nature of the Club reflect his personality to some extent. He was a great supporter of the general dental practitioner and was made an Honorary Fellow of the British Dental Association in 1969. Born an Irishman in County Wexford in 1905, he trained in dentistry at the Royal Dental Hospital and in medicine at the Middlesex Hospital, becoming a

consultant at the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich in 1930, at just twenty-five years old. He was appointed Clinical Assistant at the Westminster Hospital in 1929 and became consultant there in 1937. He was very much a military man, having joined the Territorial Army, RAMC in 1928 with a commission. He ran his clinical departments in good military style and when the Club was formed in 1937, he ran that along similar lines.

Figure 1 Robert Sutton Taylor (1905-1986)

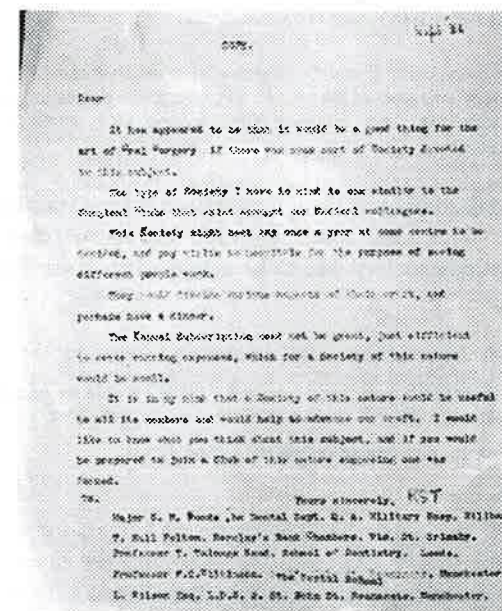


A confidential Army memo, which he enjoyed, ran 'Rupert Sutton Taylor is a very able officer but inclined to be eccentric.' This slight eccentricity still exists in the nature of the Club, and is mistaken by some as an anachronism. An example of his style of management within the Club occurred in 1965 on a visit to Lyons when a new member, a fellow countryman, was about to commit a misdemeanour which would have brought the

Club disrespect. Taylor, who was Immediate Past President at the time, held a "Court Martial" in his hotel room and the miscreant was ordered back home, but retained his membership!

In September 1936, when he was only thirty-one years old, he sent a letter to five people, Professor T. Talmage Read of Leeds, Professor Frank Wilkinson of Manchester, L. Wilson also of Manchester, T. Hall Fenton of Grimsby and Major S.H. Woods of the Millbank Military Hospital, London, proposing the formation of an oral surgery club and inviting them to form a steering committee. In that letter, his concept was to model the society on those existing at that time in medicine and surgery. Its object would be to advance the art and craft of oral surgery (*Figure 2*).

Figure 2 The original suggested Rules of the Oral Surgery Club



It was suggested that the society met annually at a centre and pay visits to hospitals to study the work being carried out, and perhaps have a dinner.

The response was enthusiastic, although L. Wilson's initial keenness seems to have faded rapidly as he never came into the picture. In the letters of reply, T. Hall Fenton wrote

... that membership should be restricted to those who practise oral surgery to some extent and who are also willing to support the society actively.

Active membership is a major criterion for continuing membership and demands attendance of at least one meeting in four. Members who do not meet this obligation, but with good reason, can be excused. Hall Fenton continues:

In many Societies there are so many members who are willing to take whatever the Society offers but think that their obligation to put anything into it is completely discharged by the payment of a subscription.

Attitudes do not seem to change, as this sentiment is often expressed today by those that are involved. He continues,

... it should be a condition of membership that each member should be obliged to contribute annually an aspect of the art of oral surgery: the papers might be printed and issued to members. Any member failing to contribute would automatically cease to be a member.

What splendid stuff, and Hall Fenton was from Grimsby and not from some ivory tower. This admirable suggestion was not pursued for long but it gives a flavour that this society was to be active. Professor Wilkinson's letter was much shorter,

Dear Taylor,

I think your suggestion a very good one and I think I would be prepared to join such a club, if formed.

It would, at any rate, give one an excuse for a good dinner.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

F.C. Wilkinson

Professor Talmage Read, in his reply to Taylor, really determined the nature of the Club. His reply of 15 September 1936 is hand written:

My dear Taylor,

Very many thanks for your letter. I think the idea of a surgical club is excellent and I would certainly support it. Have you considered those who would be eligible for membership as it does seem to be particularly specialised and might be more useful

if it were kept exclusive. Have you any idea of the number who would be interested? I had a note from Mr Maloney regarding the meeting of the American Society – could you give me an idea of the nature of your paper and the scope? Am enclosing my last paper which you probably saw in the Journal.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

T. Talmage Read

The implication was that you had to be established in oral surgical practice, and later we shall see that the number of members was to be limited to a relatively small number. This was quite different from the British Association of Oral Surgeons that was founded twenty-five years later where membership is inclusive, as any dentist or doctor with an interest in the subject can join.

The type of membership is echoed in Taylor's letter of 29 September 1936 and in the set of draft Rules he sent out with that letter.

88, Portland Place, W.1.
Welbeck 6106

September 29th, 1936.

Dear

I have had favourable replies regarding the proposed formation of an Oral Surgery Club from Mr T. Hall Fenton of Grimsby, Professor T. Talmage Read of Leeds, Professor F.C. Wilkinson of Manchester, Mr L. Wilson of Manchester, and Major S. Ham Woods of Millbank. Including myself this makes a total of six, being all the people I have approached.

All these persons have some claim to be considered as competent in Oral Surgery, and are either Specialists, or have charge of Hospital Departments devoted to the subject.

I enclose a draft of proposed provisional Rules, which I suggest should serve as a working constitution until such time as we can have an Inaugural Meeting.

I would very much like to have proposals as to the place and date of the first Meeting.

Yours sincerely,

It is worth looking at the suggested constitution as it is of considerable interest and, seen in the context of the time, remarkable for its vision and insight. This has had a considerable influence in the shaping of what is now the specialty of oral surgery.

RULES

- (1) That the Club be known as the ORAL SURGERY CLUB.
- (2) That the object of the Club be to advance the Science and Art of Oral Surgery.

- (3) That Membership be confined to those persons who Specialize in Oral Surgery, or hold a Hospital or Public Appointment devoted to Oral Surgery.
- (4) That apart from the foundation Members all persons desirous of joining be required to produce evidence considered satisfactory by the Council that they are Specialists in Oral Surgery, or hold a Hospital or Public Appointment devoted to Oral Surgery.
- (5) That the affairs of the Club be managed by a Committee consisting of the President, the Secretary, and one other Member.
- (6) That the Subscription be £1 1 0 per year.
- (7) That all cheques be signed by the Secretary and countersigned by the President.
- (8) That all Members of the Club submit to the Committee once a year one original Paper, on some Subject relating to Oral Surgery of not less than 1000 words, or a description of a case they have treated of not less than 500 words. Such Paper or Case history to be suitably illustrated by Drawings, X Rays, Pathological Reports Etc.
- (9) That these Rules be considered as provisional and shall only remain in force until such time as a permanent constitution be ratified by a General Meeting.

It will be noted that firstly the original name was the Oral Surgery Club. The addition "of Great Britain" seems to have crept in during the immediate post-war years to indicate that active membership was restricted to this country, but changes in the category of membership will be discussed later. Secondly, 'the objects of the Club be to advance the science and art of oral surgery.' The craft in surgical practice in 1936 was given greater emphasis than it does today; indeed it is hardly mentioned, the emphasis now being on science.

Thirdly, membership was to be confined to those persons who specialise in oral surgery or hold a hospital or public appointment devoted to oral surgery. Following that, the credentials of those wishing to join needed to be scrutinised, and then the usual requirements for the smooth running of any organisation.

The eye alights on Rule 8, Hall Fenton's suggestion:

Each member had to submit to the Committee once a year either a topic on Oral Surgery of no less than 1000 words or a case report of no less than 500 words. Such paper or case history to be suitably illustrated by Drawings, X-rays, Pathological Reports etc.

Continuing medical education in 1936 was regarded as a highly important activity, indeed the object of the Club was to pursue just that. It is sad that a small proportion of the profession in the late twentieth century seems to have forgotten this essential activity. This draft set of Rules seems to have been accepted without controversy. Wilkinson appears to be the only one commenting on them in writing:

2nd October 1936

Dear Taylor,

I think the rules submitted by you for the proposed club are adequate, at any rate for the time being.

As regards the meeting, I presume it will have to be in London and I take it that we can borrow a suitable room from the British Dental Association or some other body of similar character.

On the whole I think that Friday evening or Saturday morning are most convenient times for me to get away.

Yours sincerely,

F.C. Wilkinson

The subject of the Rule Book usually generates seemingly endless debate, but here the objective of the Club was clearly foremost in their minds. However, it took them a little while to get together, but the date of Saturday, 20 March 1937 was fixed, and the first meeting of the Steering Committee met at Sutton Taylor's house at 88 Portland Place, London with Professor Talmage Read in the chair. Wilkinson and Wilson were unable to come, Wilkinson having written. The three remaining, other than Talmage Read, were of course Taylor, Woods and Hall Fenton. Letters of support from the two absentees were read, and the Oral Surgery Club was formally founded.

The Rules were then formulated along the lines proposed by Taylor the previous September. There are some further changes to the draft set: Rule 3, '... or Public Appointment devoted to oral surgery', becomes '... or other Appointment embracing Oral Surgery, and who possess a Dental and/or Medical qualification.' Rule 4 is simplified, Rule 5 allows the addition of another ordinary member to the Committee making two instead of one, and Rule 7 setting up the Bank Account.

PROVISIONAL RULES

To be agreed to on the formation of the ORAL SURGERY CLUB.

- (1) That the Club be known as the ORAL SURGERY CLUB.
- (2) That the objects of the Club be to advance the Science and Art of Oral Surgery.
- (3) That Membership be confined to those persons who Specialize in Oral Surgery, or hold a Hospital or other Appointment embracing Oral Surgery, and who possess a Dental and/or Medical qualification.
- (4) All persons desirous of joining be required to satisfy the Committee that they are eligible under Rule 3.
- (5) That the Club be administered by a Committee consisting of the President, the Secretary, and two other Members.
- (6) That the Subscription be £1 1 0.

- (7) That all Cheques be signed by the Secretary Treasurer and counter signed by the President. All monies received on behalf of the Club be paid into the Club account at the Westminster Bank, 1, Cavendish Square, W.1.
- (8) That each member of the Club shall submit to the Committee annually at least one original Paper on some Subject relating to Oral Surgery, or a description of a case he has treated. Such Paper or Case History to be suitably illustrated.
- (9) That these Rules be provisional and shall only remain in force until such time as a permanent constitution be ratified by a General Meeting.

Hall Fenton's suggestion, embodied in Rule 8 to ensure continuing medical education, was modified in that the minimum length of submissions had been dropped.

Officers were then considered by the small group. Professor Talmage Read was elected President, Taylor was to be the Honorary Secretary and the Chairman proposed Woods and Hall Fenton be elected members of the Committee. At this point the first member of the Club to be invited was Professor Wilkinson, his name being proposed from the chair. This was unanimously supported. L. Wilson was not proposed, which is a little curious – perhaps he withdrew, but there is no record of what actually happened. There is another instance of an invitation to join being declined.

The meeting decided that the existence of the Club should be drawn to 'the attention of the professional journals stating its objects' by a letter sent to six journals, including the *British Dental Journal* and the *British Medical Journal*. Finally, the Steering Committee concluded that it would need to meet again, this time it did so on 19 June 1937 at Ye Old Bell Hotel, Barnby Moor, Nottingham (Figure 3). There were a number of important matters to be decided.

Firstly, the new members arising from the response to the advertisement in the professional journals had to be considered. This was the only time when you could apply to join the Club, thereafter it has been by invitation only. It is interesting to read the correspondence of the time. Wilkinson was the first fully paid-up member. He sent in his cheque for one guinea on 17 April 1937, possibly prompting Sutton Taylor to get out his own cheque book. The first entries in the Cash Book show Wilkinson first and Taylor second, both recorded on the same date, 20 April 1937.

Wilkinson was very keen, and had proposed Professor Humphreys of Birmingham before the inaugural meeting of the 20 March 1937 in a letter to Taylor of 4 February 1937. The letter of invitation of 12 February seems to be unanswered. Like L. Wilson, for some reason Professor Humphreys declined the invitation, which would have been very disappointing for Wilkinson. The author met Professor Wilkinson on a number of occasions when he was well into his eighties, and even in old age he was sharp, keen and enthusiastic. Taylor did well to recruit him.

Figure 3 Ye Old Bell Hotel, Barnby Moor, Nottingham



However, all those who applied did not pass the scrutiny of the Committee at Barnby Moor, which obviously generated some debate as it is minuted:

The President called the attention of the Committee to the fact that wine had been ordered for 7.30 and that it was now 7.45 the meeting adjourned for dinner.

They had only managed to complete the first two items on the agenda! Brigadier Donald Taylor, a more junior officer then, wrote to apply only to be turned down, probably because he was not senior enough. Remember, young Taylor was a consultant at a major teaching hospital by then, apart from being

one at the Seamen's Hospital for the previous seven years. However, Donald Taylor was elected to the Club some nineteen years later in 1956.

The Committee finally proposed some sixteen names additional to Wilkinson to become the founder members of the Club (*Appendix I*).

Having been revitalised by dinner, the meeting continued and they decided that the first General Meeting was to be at Leeds where Professor Talmage Read would arrange a scientific programme and '... that the meeting should be devoted mainly to clinical subjects of interest to both dental and general surgeons.' The Annual General Meetings of the Club have retained this feature ever since. These meetings today recognise that the specialised field of oral and maxillofacial surgery does not exist in isolation from the rest of the surgical world and the "home" meetings mainly have lectures and papers from other disciplines both surgical and medical, with the occasional dental topic. These meetings are recognised for continuing medical education. The annual overseas meeting is devoted to the study of the specialty practised in that centre, and again are recognised for educational purposes.

Looking at the list of founder members, there was a wide geographical spread and again this has been a feature of the Club (*Appendix I*). At one time, which cannot be dated but it was probably in the 1950s, the percentage coming from London was restricted to twenty-five percent to prevent the Club being dominated by London-based practitioners and it is suspected that the words "of Great Britain" in the title came to be used at the same time. There is no recorded minute as such. The Army has been represented from the outset, the Club having the Heads of Dental Services in the three armed services as members. Sutton Taylor's long association with the Army certainly determined this feature of the membership.

The possibility of publishing the proceedings of the scientific meetings was to be explored, and this is a recurrent matter in the early minutes. However they were never published, but an offer was made to the Club by John Hovell, the first editor of the *British Journal of Oral Surgery* in October 1962. Hovell was a Club member, but the papers referred to were those presented to the Club, which were not what Hovell wanted. By 1962 the famous Rule 8, that is submissions by Club members, had gone but, to be fair, in the first volume of the *British Journal of Oral Surgery* (1963) eleven of the twenty-seven contributors were Club members. So the Club was active with its pen as well as its scalpel, but up to that point none of the scientific journals were interested in the Club's offer.

At the end of that meeting at Barnby Moor they decided to change the rule of membership, which was to have a profound effect on the Club. It is minuted,

It was agreed that the membership of the club limited to 50 active members and that all candidates for membership must be sponsored by a member and supported by at least two other members. Their election to be carried out at a Meeting of the Club on report by the Committee.

The significance of this was that the membership was likely to contain most of the leaders of the specialty, the fifteen percent of movers in any group with a broad membership has. Not surprisingly the Club and its members have been instrumental in the development of the specialty. However, since its scientific proceedings have never been published, and because of the nature of its membership rule, those outside have often termed it the 'mafia'. This is not so, as it is, not interested in itself as such, but in the furtherance of the science and art of oral surgery. Naturally, there are and have been leaders who have not become members of the Club, but personality is an important element in any small Organisation and one or two have dropped out.

Before the Leeds meeting, the Steering Committee met for a third time at the Dental School in Leeds on 17 October 1937. Here it is minuted again over the difficulty in getting the Club's proceedings published. The membership rule was changed for a third time, the pragmatic hand of Sutton Taylor probably behind it. There was to be the category of Honorary Membership, the Committee having the power to elect, and reiterating 'That application for Active Membership must have qualifications registerable in this country.'

Taylor could see that good links with Europe would be beneficial, and restriction of membership to UK qualifications would exclude any potential members in Europe. The category of Honorary Membership would allow such members, and this has been most important as the Club has Honorary Members in several European countries. The category has also allowed active members who have retired from clinical practice to remain members of the Club.

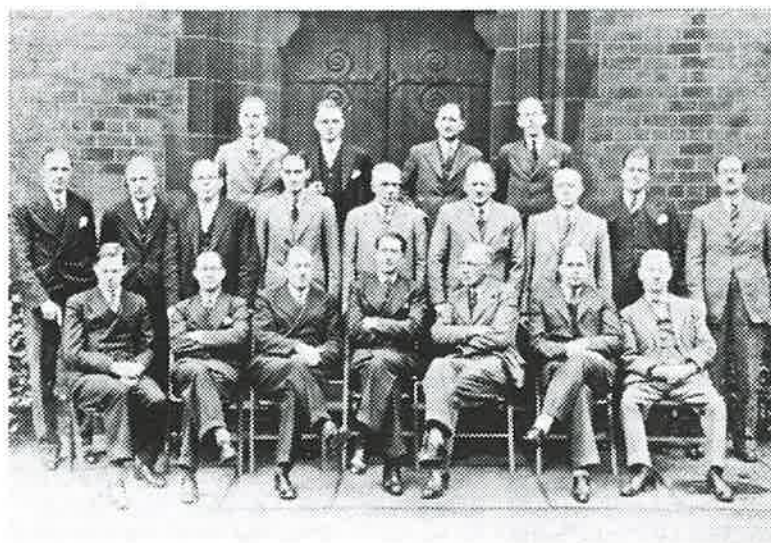
The number of active members on the Committee was increased from two to five. It is likely that Professor Wilkinson, who had been co-opted onto the Committee at the Barnby Moor meeting, wanted to stay on, but co-option would end at the first Annual General Meeting when the constitution, being typed before the meeting has the word "four" struck out and substituted with "five". Probably Harold Round and A.E. Rowlett had already been approached by Taylor before the meeting. When the Club resumed its activities after the War, the number of active Committee members continued with five, Wilkinson always attending. However, when the Rules were revised in 1949 the number returned to four. After the first Annual General Meeting a better copy of the Rules was typed out but errors still crept in, the date being corrected.

The first foreign meeting was considered. The Honorary Secretary was instructed 'to explore the possibilities of this country (Holland) keeping in

mind the best time would be about the end of April.' The Club's overseas meetings, by and large, have occurred between March and June. Finally, they formally agreed that the first Annual General Meeting of the Club should coincide with the clinical meeting being held by Professor Talmage Read at Leeds on the 26 and 27 November 1937, giving Sutton Taylor about a week to inform the Club members in sufficient time.

By all accounts this was a prestigious occasion, with eighteen out of the twenty-one members attending the AGM on 26 November. Woods, Young and Hall Fenton were absent for that meeting, but managed to attend the scientific meeting the next day as they appear on the group photograph (*Figure 4*) with Milne, C. Read and Russell Marsh who were elected at that meeting. The original cine clip of that moment, taken by Adam Cubie, is in the Club Archive and has been transferred to video tape.

Figure 4 Group Photograph of the Inaugural and First Scientific Meeting of the Club, Leeds Dental School, 26 November 1937



Back Row: I.M. Young, Major W.A.D. Drummond, A.F. Milne, Adam Cubie
 Middle Row: J.S.H. Collinge, T.J. Jackson, E. Payne, R. Marsh, D. Fyfe, A. Pain, S. Hanreck, J.D. Cambrook, Dr C Read
 Front Row: R.S. Taylor, Major S.H. Woods, Professor F.C. Wilkinson, Professor T.T. Read, A.E. Rowlett, T.H. Fenton, A.M. Nodine

At the Annual General Meeting, the President '... expressed the hope that goodwill would exist between members and that all petty spite would be absent.' He referred to the government of the Club and pointed out '... that it would be necessary for the Committee to have wide powers.' The first sentiment has persisted within the membership of the Club, and is best encapsulated when considering a possible new member by the criterion espoused by Alan Moule: 'is he clubbable?' The male "he" will be noted, and the subject of gender is addressed later. However, with the second sentiment, some matters never seem to change.

The Provisional Rules were adopted but, as far as can be ascertained from the records, how long Rule 8, that is, presenting an annual dissertation or case report, existed is not known, but the Second World War was imminent and attitudes had changed by the time hostilities ceased. However in the early post-war meetings of the Club substantial contributions from members were a feature, and often made up most of the presentations.

The Annual General Meeting was held at 7 pm and must have appeared to be very formal, as they would all be in dinner jackets since the Annual Dinner was scheduled for 8 pm. This was not a lavish affair (*Figure 5*), but there is no mention on the dinner card as to what was drunk for toasts. Those present at the dinner were told that another prestigious and famous club was founded at Leeds, the Moynihan Surgical Club, and hope was expressed that the Oral Surgery Club would follow the great tradition established.

The Scientific Meeting provided by Professor Talmage Read and his colleagues gives a good insight into the scope and range of practice then. The programme was a mixture of operations, clinical cases and papers:

Saturday

9 a.m. Operations.

- (1) Dental Cyst. Professor Read at Dental School.
- (2) Cleft Palate. Mr Oldfield at General Infirmary.
- (3) Arthroplasty of Low Jaw. Mr Broomhead at General Infirmary.

12.30 Photograph. Outside Dental School.

12.45 Lunch at Staff House
 Tickets 2/6, exclusive of wine.

2.30 Cases and Discussion at Dental School

- (1) Clinical Cases and Operative Results. Professor Read.
- (2) Clicking jaws. Mr Broomhead.
- (3) Radium Cases and Cleft Palates. Mr Oldfield.

4 p.m. Tea

4.30 Short Papers (10 Minutes each)

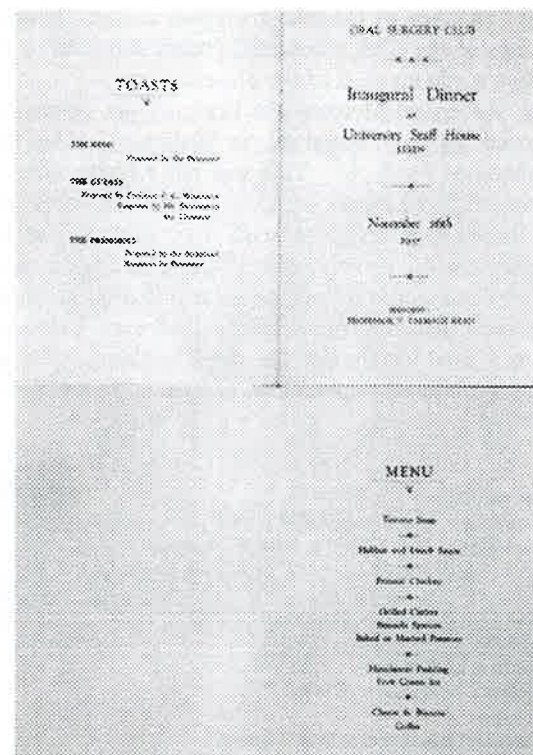
- (1) Calculus of Salivary Glands. Mr Hamilton Bailey.
- (2) Agranulocytosis. Major Drummond
- (3) Hyperastis of Maxilla. Mr Pain
- (4) Osteomyelitis of Mandible. Mr Taylor.
- (5) Military Fractures of Jaw. Major Woods.

Concluding Meeting

Vote of Thanks

Sunday Golf for those who wish.

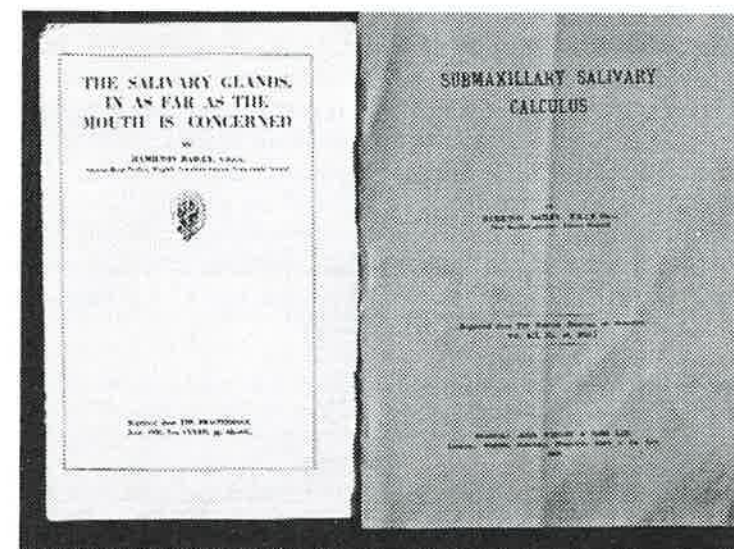
Figure 5 Dinner Card, 27 November 1937



Arthroplasty of Low Jaw seems a perplexing title for an operation, but could it have been a modification of the Kostecka operation for a prognathic mandible? In the afternoon the eye lights on Mr Hamilton Bailey's contribu-

tion. He was a founder member and was a famous general surgeon at the time, and the author of the seminal book on surgery and based in London. There are two reprints on the subject of salivary glands and calculi written by him in the archives, the first in 1924 for the *British Journal of Surgery* and the second in 1934 for *The Practitioner* (Figure 6). All the other papers were given by Club members. Mr Pain's contribution on Hyperastis of Maxilla was probably a case of hyperostosis. The pattern of this meeting was very similar to what the Club experiences on its visits to foreign centres.

Figure 6 Hamilton Bailey's papers on Salivary Gland Disease



The Annual General Meeting was resumed at 5.30 pm on Saturday, 27 November. Votes of thanks were passed, and the Committee reconvened immediately afterwards and proposed a further five names. Some variations to the Rules were beginning to creep in and the pragmatic hands of Sutton Taylor and Talmage Read can be detected. In the list of members there is F.H. Bentley, a plastic surgeon, who was elected at that meeting with C. Read, a radiologist, not oral surgeons but obviously two people with an interest in the subject and who worked and supported oral surgeons. This has been a feature of the Club membership ever since, with the occasional general surgeon, plas-

tic surgeon, orthodontist and pathologist being a member. General surgeons at that time often carried out some oral surgery. F.H. Bentley was elected President of the Club in 1949, and it is quite clear that this was not an inward-looking Organisation as might appear. They were already prepared for change.

Establishing precisely who the founder members were and those who were elected in the pre-war years has not been easy, as the Minute Book has an incomplete record when compared with the Cash Book. However the list shown in Figure 7 for this period concurs with the number of members given in the Minute Book and, deducing from written sources, when those members were likely to have been elected.

Figure 7 Members List, 1937-1939

ORAL SURGERY CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN			
LIST OF MEMBERS			
PAST & PRESENT			
1936	Rupert Sutton Taylor	London	Conceptor & Secretary
1937	Professor T. Tolmace Wood	London	First Chairman of Committee '1937
	S.H. Woods (M.D.)	Army	
	T. Hall Pearson	Grimsby	Steering Committee
	Professor P.O. Wilkinson	Manchester	
	Harold Round	Birmingham	
	A.E. Rowlett	Leicester	
	J.S.D. Collings	Southport	
	D. Pye	Glasgow	
Founder Members	Samuel Bailey (Gen. Surg.)	London	
	J.D. Cambrook	London	
	S.E. Barker	Liverpool	
	A. Cobie	Glasgow	
	I.M. Young	Ayr	
	A. Pels	Edinburgh	
	C. Prosser	Sheffield	
	A.E. Meeson	Liverpool	
	S. Payne	London	
	A. Drummond (Maj.)	Army	
	A.M. Nadine	London	
	S. Hamrick	Harahan	
Nov. 1937	Professor G.I. Roberts	Sheffield	
	Professor H.B. Stronach	Liverpool	
	A.M. Milne	Bradford	
	F. Jackson	Cheltenham	
	F.H. Bentley (Plastic Surg.)	Manchester	
	C. Bees (Radiologist)	Glasgow	

The Committee next met at Sutton Taylor's house in Portland Place on 26 February 1938 to consider the venue for the foreign meeting. Holland had already been suggested, but this had appeared not to be possible. Berlin was suggested as an alternative. The Club has always had a spirit of adventure, is not bothered about "heavy fire", and shows initiative. However, at the Annual General Meeting held in Birmingham on 24 June 1938, it is minuted,

The Committee has been unable to arrange a meeting abroad because of the uncertain state of foreign affairs and had decided that the Club should meet in England (Birmingham) on this occasion.

To put matters into historical context, the suggestion of Berlin was made on 26 February 1938. The Austrian Chancellor had just been forced by Hitler to take several Nazis into his Cabinet. On 11 March, just thirteen days after the Club Committee meeting, Austria was forcibly annexed by Hitler, the Anschluss or joining of the two countries. Czechoslovakia was next on the list, and Mussolini had already annexed Ethiopia. There were frequent rallies of the SS shouting 'Seig Heil', Hail, Victory, and indeed the war clouds were gathering thick and fast over Europe.

A letter to the members from Taylor dated 10 March, the day before the Anschluss, concerning the arrangements for the visit to Berlin is quite clear that detailed provisional arrangements for the visit had been made, together with costing of the trip. However a further letter, dated 12 April 1938, indicated that the meeting was off.

The Minute of the Committee meeting held immediately before the Annual General Meeting on 24 June is a little more explicit. It must be remembered that Sutton Taylor was a commissioned officer in the TA (RAMC), as were several other members, and two were regular serving officers in the Army, Woods and Drummond, the latter becoming a Lt General. The minute reads,

... the Secretary reported that the Berlin meeting suggested at the Committee Meeting of Feb. 26th could not be held as several service members found a journey of this nature was not received by the War Office with favour.

Clearly, they had been told that they could not go. Historically this incident indicates that the War Office was already regarding Germany as hostile, and if they had gone there would have been a high risk of being interned. Chamberlain's famous speech of 'Peace in our time' was in the September of that year, and essentially the politicians were trying to buy time in which to modernise the armed forces.

The Club seems to have a penchant for trying to organise meetings in which the country to be visited becomes inappropriate. Some thirty years later another foreign visit was cancelled, because of revolution this time. A visit to Paris from 5 to 7 June 1968 had been arranged, when at that weekend the Fourth Republic had collapsed following rioting in Paris for the most of May. Jacques Levisnac, the Club's would-be host, in his letter to Ian Heslop, the Secretary, shows almost a British form of sangfroid,

Paris, le 30 juillet 1968

Dear Doctor HESLOP,

The French revolution is over now with many less casualties than in normal time with traffic accidents but with some problems left.

I am about to leave for vacations like everybody in Paris which will be for one month a foreign city where all languages are spoken but French. We like that.

I must tell you on behalf of Professor AUBRY, Professor CERNEA, Dr DUPUIS, Dr MERVILLE and myself that the Oral Surgery Club will be most welcome in Paris any time.

I had a real nice program arranged for the Club it is unfortunate we could not go through but we can do as well next time.

Nothing is lost and friendship gained.

I send you my best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Levignac

So they did, the following year.

Another occasion was the Autumn Meeting in Belfast from 26 to 28 October 1977, with Roy Whitlock. This was at the height of the "troubles" and the meeting was held at the Royal Victoria Hospital, which lies beside the Falls Road. There were armed Army personnel patrolling the corridors and grounds of the hospital, helicopters coming and going, and the atmosphere was tense. Whitlock told Club members afterwards that at least half of the waitresses who waited upon the Club at a Reception Dinner were probably linked to the IRA.

Returning to 1938, the Birmingham meeting (the Berlin substitute), the membership stood at thirty-four, the net assets were about £25, and auditors were thought to be necessary. Another member was elected, and the minute ends: 'The meeting was then closed to allow the members to enjoy dinner.'

The scientific meeting on Saturday, 25 June consisted of clinical case presentations by Harold Round and Ralph Broderick, both Club members, in the first half of the morning, with papers in the second half.

- (1) Brief resume of the diagnosis of Focal Infection.
Professor Wilkinson.
- (2) A Case of Dental Cyst.
Mr Russell Marsh.
- (3) After Care of Surgical Cases.
Mr A.M. Nodine.
- (4) A Case of Ulceration of the Tongue.

Mr L.M. Young.

- (5) Localization of Foreign Bodies by X-Rays.
Dr Charles Read.

In the afternoon there were operations by Harold Round, Ralph Broderick and Mr Rainsford Mowlem, who was a plastic surgeon and became the head of the famous Mount Vernon Unit in the Second World War. On the Sunday, they visited a new hospital centre in the morning and visited the local countryside in the afternoon with tea.

A large part of any secretary's job is to chase all manner of items:

ORAL SURGERY CLUB

Number Six,
88, Portland Place,
London, W.1.

12th July, 1938

Dear

I would be pleased to receive a cheque for £1. 1. 0. being your Annual Subscription due July 1st.

Also a cheque for being the amount owing to the Club in respect of the Annual Dinner.

I would like to remind you that you have not yet forwarded the compulsory contribution required under the Rules of the Club. This need not be a long article, a comparatively short description of a case will suffice.

Yours sincerely,

R.S. Taylor
Hon. Secretary
ORAL SURGERY CLUB

No slacking by members for producing their annual scientific article was being tolerated.

The next meeting was scheduled for Leicester under the Presidency of A.E. Rowlett, who had organised the meeting for 27 and 28 January 1939. Unfortunately, he fell ill and was unable to host the meeting. He was installed as President in absentia, and Professor Talmage Read acted as deputy. At that meeting the Committee considered six more names for membership, but turned one down as he did not fulfill the criteria. The Committee also received the first resignation from the Club, A.M. Milne of Bradford who had been elected two years previously. He found he was unable to attend the meetings, or was it the burden of writing those essays? He made the Leeds meeting, and Leicester was only the third meeting of the Club. However, L. MacLaren Young from Ayr, a founder member, submitted two case histories on 14 November 1937, two weeks before the first meeting of the Club. This

is the only preserved submission in the archive and the subject is the surgical management of the buried maxillary canine, suitably illustrated. Young has remained a member of the Club to this day.

Minuted is another gem. Mr Froggatt of Sheffield had not paid his annual subscription and '... the Committee instructed the Secretary to deal with the matter.' Rupert Sutton Taylor was not a man to be trifled with, but there is no record for Froggatt in the Cash Book for 1939. However he had paid up his guinea in 1947, so he had not been drummed out of the Club and had survived the War.

The scientific programme followed the previous pattern, with operations at Leicester Royal Infirmary followed by clinical cases on the Saturday morning and papers in the afternoon by three members of the Club and one invited speaker. Mr Frizelle demonstrated an operation for hare lip and cleft palate, and in the clinical case presentations showed his results. Cases of adamantinoma of the mandible, malignant tumour of the maxilla, osteomyelitis of the jaw, haemangioma of the tongue, chronic ulcer of the palate (for diagnosis), tumour of the cheek (for diagnosis), cyst of the jaw and necrosis of the alveolus. Cases of jaw fracture, tumours of the submaxillary gland, carcinoma of the antrum, epulis of jaw, carcinoma of ethmoid, lupus of palate and oral leukoplakia were shown. Clearly a very wide range of pathology was seen, the like of which is rarely seen today.

The papers consisted of a case of adamantinoma of the mandible by Professor Roberts and a case of extensive dental sepsis by Hall Fenton. Rowlett was scheduled to give a contribution but, at short notice, S. Hanreck provided a substitute paper on Sarcoma. There were two invited speakers, Dr Stewart Johnson, who spoke on malignant tumours of the maxilla, and Dr Van Omen of Holland, on uncommon cases of fractures of the upper and lower jaws.

In the minutes of the Leicester Annual General Meeting, 'It was proposed the next meeting of the Club should be abroad.' The alternative was Sheffield under Professor Roberts. From copies of the letters in the archive it was clear that the Club wished to visit Paris. Neither meeting was held, the alternative literally, and the other saw some members abroad in a different role. War was declared on 4 September, and the Honorary Secretary sent out this notice on 7 September:

Number Six.
88, Portland Place,
London, W.1.

ORAL SURGERY CLUB

Owing to the present situation there will be no Meeting in Paris at the end of September.

As Major R.S. Taylor is absent on Military Duty, the Funds of the Club, together with a copy of the Rules and a list of names and addresses of the Committee and Members, have been deposited at the Westminster Bank, 1, Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

7th September, 1939

He had been called-up for battle duty.

Perforce, the Club was in a state of suspension until after the War was over, and who knew who would return, particularly the Honorary Secretary who was commanding a Field Ambulance Unit? He did return, unscathed, being awarded an OBE Military Division in recognition of his efforts and being promoted from Major to Lt Colonel.

There follows a seven-and-a-half year break in proceedings, and it is worth assessing the Club's progress. From Taylor's first concept to the outbreak of War, just three years, the Club had been established, there were thirty-nine members, three scientific meetings had been held, but they had not made it abroad through no fault of theirs. At Leicester in 1939 it is minuted, 'The members continue to show a very keen interest in the wellfair (*sic*) of the Club.' The Secretary's spelling showed the slight eccentricity of the man. Taylor should have been well pleased, and the balance sheet stood at £85 8s. 1d. when the Club's activities were suspended.

Fortunately for oral and maxillofacial surgery all the Club members survived, as did the bank vault in which all the records were held or otherwise the record of the early years could have only been anecdotal. Those who had served in the armed services came back having all been promoted, which augured well for the Club as it began to be involved with the National Health Service Act. This was to change the pattern of delivery of health care in this country and become an even greater catalyst to the advancement of dentistry, and in particular this specialty. War always provides a stimulus, but Aneurin Bevan would surpass that.

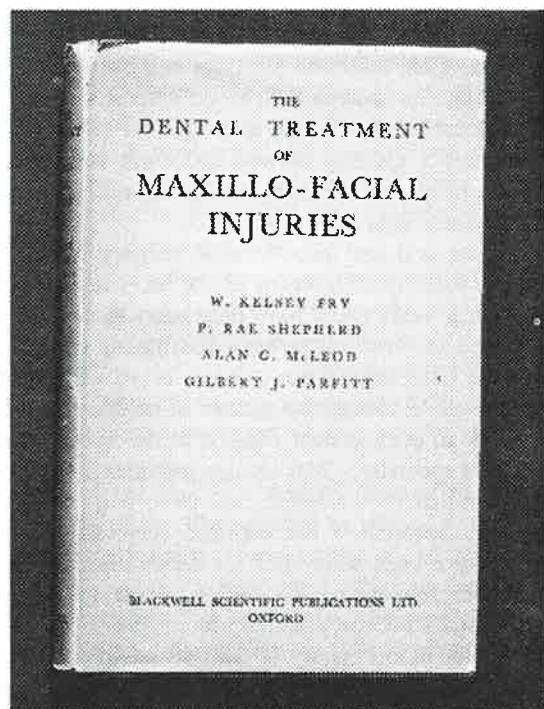
The Honorary Secretary's flat had also survived, and on 1 November 1946, which must have been soon after his demobilisation, he sent a circular to all Club members announcing the first post-war meeting of the Club at Cheltenham between 28 February and 2 March 1947. Mr A.E. Rowlett remained President, but unfortunately he was ill again and could not go. T. Jackson, who was hosting the meeting, took the chair as Professor Talmage Read, who had deputised before, could not go either. The weather conditions were severe, the infamous winter of 1946/47 had gripped the country but, undaunted, a good turn out of members occurred.

The meeting was held in the Council Chamber of Cheltenham Town Hall, a unique occurrence in the history of the Club. The scientific part of the meeting was held in the morning of Saturday, 1 March with the business meeting in the afternoon. There was an informal dinner in the evening,

clothes rationing was still in force and perhaps some members were unable to replace their old dinner jackets which no doubt had deteriorated in the War years.

The scientific part of the meeting was devoted to maxillofacial injuries. This is of considerable interest and Kelsey-Fry, who was elected a member at that meeting, had produced in 1942, with others, an important book, *The Dental Treatment of Maxillo-facial Injuries* (Figure 8). Interestingly, in the acknowledgements of the book, the authors thank Mrs Lindsay, the BDA librarian for the great help she gave them.

Figure 8



The contributions and the discussion is of interest: pin fixation, a favourite with the American Forces, was thought to have been over used but it certainly had a place in the surgical repertoire, particularly for the edentulous

mandible. With the advent of antibiotics, was primary bone grafting now viable? The management of comminuted fractures was discussed. Brigadier Broderick discussed the death rate in maxillofacial injuries, and estimated three percent succumbed through asphyxia between the Field Ambulance and the Casualty Clearing Station. For A. Pain and Sutton Taylor, in their experience in the forward battle zone, the immediate death rate of maxillofacial injuries was very high and that the majority of patients died before reaching the Recovery Ambulance Party. It was impossible to get any figures, but they noted the low death rate after reaching assistance. This reflected great credit on the arrangements for treating maxillofacial injuries. It is of interest that in the First World War, again this was a common experience.

To digress, Pain and Taylor were often at risk of being killed as many in these units were hit. It was the surgical experience gained in these conditions that contributed enormously to the development of the specialty. Those who were not called up worked in the Emergency Medical Service Hospitals, where the war casualties received more definitive and innovative treatment. The Moule pin was developed during this time at Bagueley, Alan Moule turning the prototypes up on a lathe himself. He was elected to the Club in June 1948. During the War period, many young maxillofacial surgeons recruited from the dental profession worked with plastic surgeons in the Emergency Medical Service Hospitals. It was there, to a large extent, the real development of the specialty started. Moule worked with Randal Champion, the plastic surgeon, at Bagueley, but equally famous were three big units in the south of England: Harold Gillies, the plastic surgeon at Basingstoke with Norman Rowe and Homer Killey providing the maxillofacial input, McIndoe at East Grinstead with Kelsey-Fry and Ward, and Rainsford Mowlem at Mount Vernon with Ben Fickling giving the maxillofacial support. All these oral surgeons became members of the Club.

To return to the discussions at Cheltenham, there was some debate over the suitability of stainless steel compared with the newer metals such as tantalum.

In the minutes of the Annual General Meeting the following entry appears,

Consultants Committee The Sect reported that he had been in touch with Mr. Senior of the BDA as to the need of a consultants committee to advise in connection with the National Health Service Bill. The BDA had taken steps to form such a committee.

Proposed by Brig Broderick and seconded by Mr. Davis Thomas that the sec be instructed to approach the Secretary of the BDA and see what help the Club could give in the matter of the Consultants Committee. Carried.

The role of the Club was changing from a purely academic pursuit to being a hybrid, showing interest in medical politics as well as to advance the specialty. Given the major change in the climate of practice, involvement of this nature was essential for the specialty to advance.

Five guineas were voted to Miss Snell, Taylor's secretary, which was quite a large sum then, but she had no doubt earned it helping Taylor resurrect the Club.

To move forward in time, the offer to the BDA was taken up and Broderick and Taylor were appointed to a sub-committee of the BDA Hospitals Group. Taylor ultimately became the first chairman of the Central Committee of Hospital Dental Consultants and Specialists, the forerunner of the present Central Committee for Hospital Dental Services.

Times were not easy in the early post-war years. From the minute of the Committee meeting of 11 April 1947 it was decided that the Club would hold its first foreign meeting in Holland in early September, lasting four days including travel. The Honorary Secretary '... was instructed to explore the possibility of obtaining help from the British Council towards the expense of this meeting.' One might laugh at this today, but although this country had won the War it was destitute, or nearly so. As Wellington said, 'the nearest run thing you ever saw in your life.' The request fell on deaf ears, but all the same they went to Utrecht, where by all accounts Dr Tjebbes and his unit put on an impressive meeting between 5 and 7 September 1947. The Club was impressed by the high standard of surgery in the repair of hare lip and cleft palate. Dr Tjebbes was made the first Honorary Member of the Club from overseas. It is of interest that Club members remain, to this day, impressed at the standard of work in this field on the Continent compared to the results obtained in the UK. Some of the Club's members have been demonstrating an impressive standard of best practice for some years now, using the techniques of Professor Jean Delaire of Nantes (whom the Club visited in 1981) against great opposition.

It became apparent many years later as to why the Club went to Utrecht: why not Paris? On the Club's second visit to Utrecht in 1982, the Honorary Secretary at that time spoke to his old chief for advice as to where in Utrecht the Club could hold its dinner. He was advised to go to the Hotel Pays Bas. Taylor and his men had "liberated" the hotel in 1945 with its wine cellars. The hotel had preserved its guest book, and there was the inimitable handwriting of Taylor at the appropriate place. Needless to say, the Club with their Dutch colleagues had a very memorable evening, as did the hotel staff.

The Club continued to be highly successful, and before long the fifty mark had been reached with more on the "waiting list". The minute of the Annual General Meeting in Manchester on 9 January 1948 makes it clear that the Club had reached this point with the election of nine new members. This

was the highest number of active members in the history of the Club until the Annual General Meeting on 2 November 2000, when the number rose to fifty once more. At the 1948 meeting the Rules were revised, and the clause requiring an annual case report or dissertation was dropped. The attendance requirement of at least one meeting in two years was introduced.

The informal nature of the Club had become an important feature, and because it was of a manageable size clinical meetings were a practical feature of all the meetings both home and abroad. It must be appreciated that at the time oral surgery was an emerging specialty. Surgical training and experience was gained from trauma, and correction of facial deformity was an uncommon procedure as deformities were ill-understood. There were a large number of unanswered questions, particularly in the pathology of the region, and the climate that the Club provided was ideal for discussion and debate. Talmage Read's plea at the first Annual General Meeting in 1937, 'let there be no spite or pettiness', turned out to be unnecessary: the Club was a very friendly organisation, its members valued each other and a camaraderie existed – hence Weldon Moule's memorable criterion for membership, 'is he clubbable?'

After the Utrecht meeting of 1947 came the Manchester meeting, with Professor Frank Wilkinson as President, in January 1948, and the overseas meeting that year was to be in Dublin between 16 and 20 September. At that meeting the members worked hard. The first day, Friday, was spent looking at cases of malignant disease and discussing their treatment, first at St Anne's Hospital in the morning and then at the Royal City of Dublin Hospital in the afternoon. That evening the Club entertained the staff of the Incorporated Dental School to dinner. The next day, Saturday, a visit to the Royal College of Surgeons and then on to the famous library in Trinity College, all in the morning.

Saturday afternoon was spent in private study. On Saturday evening the Club members were the guests of the staff of the Incorporated Dental Hospital of Ireland. Sunday was spent in private study in most case helped by Dublin friends. The members returned to the U.K. on Monday.

The Secretary did well to remember.

In September 1949 the lack of dinner jackets was becoming a sign of slipping standards, and there was no excuse now as clothes rationing had ceased on 15 March. 'It was decided to recommend to members that dinner jackets be worn at the Club dinners in future.' And they have ever since.

The life of an Honorary Secretary is not always a happy one. The minute of the Committee meeting at Leeds on 19 December 1953 is brief, even for a man who believed in brevity and who demanded that his juniors read Sir Ernest Gower's book *Plain Words*,

It has proved difficult to report this meeting in greater detail because the Sec. has lost his notes of this meeting they are believed to have been left in the train.

It can happen to us all.

Looking at the scientific programmes, those at the home meetings continued in much the same format with sometimes operative technique being demonstrated, but usually clinical case presentations and lectures given on related topics. The members were still involved, but they often came from either the unit of the President for the year or a nearby unit or hospital. The emphasis of the subjects covered has changed and at the same time the Club has seen an amazing development and growth of the speciality, so much so that it is seen as part of the surgical spectrum, which in reality it is, albeit specialised as is dentistry an important part of health care. As mentioned previously, the broad nature of the home programmes is important educationally and they are recognised as such. The problem with any specialisation is that it becomes narrow in outlook very easily unless deliberate steps are taken to avoid it.

The overseas meetings show little change in pattern and content. On average some twenty members attend, but the number has been as high as thirty-five plus spouses. These numbers are manageable which maintains the nature and character of these meetings, and are recognized as part of continuing medical education, a role the Club has played since its inception. The Club has only strayed outside Europe twice, once to New York in September 1949 when only three members went, and recently to Israel in May 2000. In the spirit of adventure, they went behind the Iron Curtain to Prague in 1973. An eminent member of the Club was arrested as the driver for allegedly driving round a roundabout the wrong way late at night. He was, in fact, the front seat passenger in the Honorary Secretary's right hand drive minibus.

In 1985 the Club went behind the Iron Curtain again, this time to Budapest to the unit of Professor Georgi Szabo. This was a highly successful meeting, with the clinical day starting at 7 am with a glass of Schnapps! The Honorary Secretary at the time had quickly concluded that the "guide" allotted to the party by the Government Tourist Office, which controlled all tourism, was really from the Ministry for the Interior. When confronted with this deduction, the guide was quickly reassured that the Club did not pose a security risk and as a result she ensured the very smooth running of the visit. The Club was granted a most notable award by the Semmelweis University of Medicine of Budapest – the Semmelweis Medal, a rare honour. An early recipient was Nikita Krushchev, and the Club's medal was No. 19 (*Figure 9*). With a gift such as this for an Organisation with no fixed base, placing it in its box and leaving it in some drawer would result in its loss. As the President had no Presidential insignia, the Medal was mounted in silver and is worn

proudly by every President since. Semmelweis was the first person to realise that the cause of puerperal sepsis in post partum women in the late nineteenth century was caused by cross-infection arising from poor hygiene practised by the doctors. They failed to wash their hands thoroughly between the post mortem room and examining their patients. Puerperal sepsis in those days was usually fatal. He was ostracized by his outraged colleagues, but ultimately his findings were accepted. Admitting to wrong practice has been and is difficult for some.

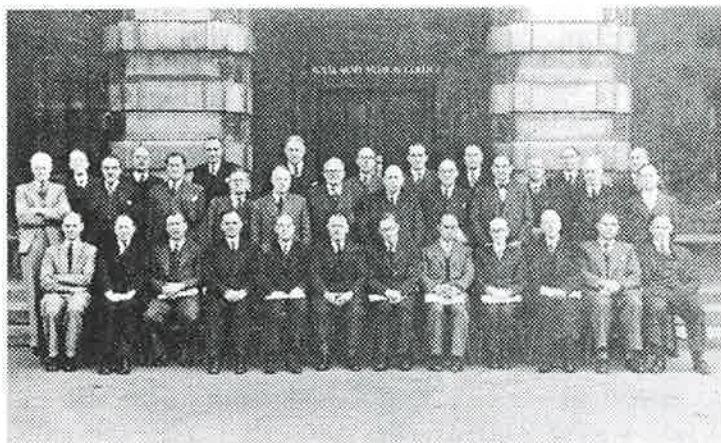
Figure 9 The Presidential Badge of Office: The Semmelweis Medal



During its history, the Club has visited forty-three units abroad, most frequently to France, Holland, Germany, Belgium, Austria and Switzerland, but it still has not been to Berlin, its first choice for 1938. Members find

these visits of great benefit, which is translated into patient care provided by them (*Figures 10 to 15, Appendix III*).

Figure 10 Meeting, 28 October 1950, Royal Army College, Millbank, London



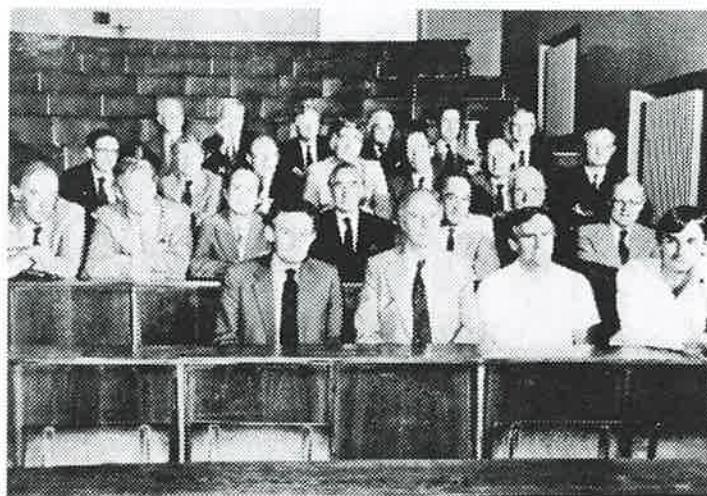
Back Row: Cubie, (Duckworth, RAMC), Collinge, Vidler, Moule, Steadman, McPhee, (RAMC), Selby-Brown
 Middle Row: (Hargreaves, RAMC), Janes, Cambrook, FitzGibbon, Hanreck, Pain, Felton, Farris, Hardy, Woods, Jackson, (RAMC)
 Front Row: Benson, Boyes, Darling, Drummond, Wilkinson, (RAMC), Taylor, Gibb, Stones, (RAMC), (RAMC), Ward

Figure 11 Meeting, 18 December 1953, Leeds Dental School



Back Row: Monks, Boyes, Snawdon, Hardy, Janes
 Middle Row: Middleton, Fickling, Scott, Selby-Brown, Moule, Farris, Steadman, Vidler, Meeson
 Front Row: Cubie, Jackson, Broderick, Talmage Read, Taylor, Hanreck, Cambrook, Collinge

Figure 12 a) Meeting, 11 June 1985, Budapest – Professor Georgi Szabo



Fourth Row: Gibson, Jones, Smith, Downton, Cheney, O'Neil
 Third Row: B. Morgan, Whitlock, Emerson, Mason, Penney, Clarke, McGowan
 Second Row: Banks, Manning, (visitor), Ray, Selwyn, Merks, Cook
 Front Row: Bradley, Alty, Szabo, (staff member)

Figure 12 b) Budapest, 12 June 1985 – 'The morning was spent in private study.'

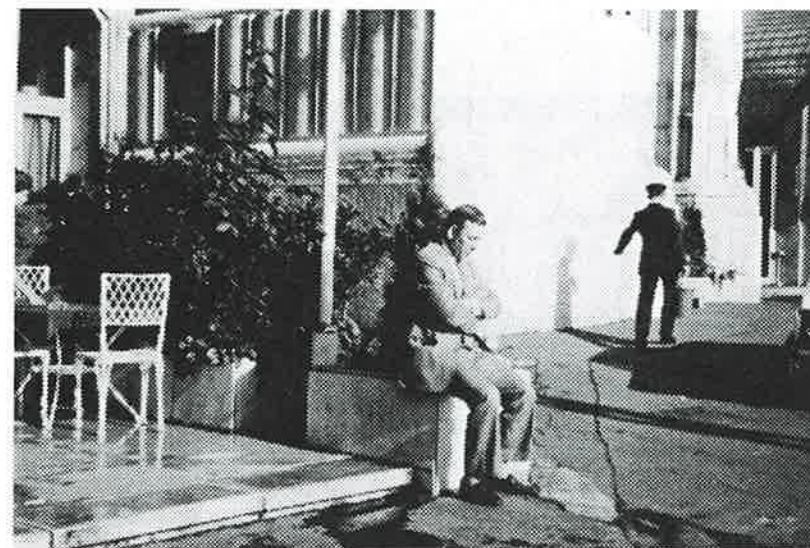


Figure 13 Meeting, 31 October 1986, Stoke-on-Trent

Fourth Row: E. Morgan, Quant, Bramley, Rayne, James, Hardman, Smith, Newell, Gibson
 Third Row: Jones, Crewe, Hall, MacLennan, Mason, Simpson, Heslop, Penney, Wilson, Howe, Fickling
 Second Row: Williams, Poswillo, Alty, Henderson, Henry, Iewars, Selwy, Awty, Moule, Hogan
 Front Row: McGowan, Whitlock, Cook, J. Bradley, Manning, Downton, Hamilton, Gray, Ray, P. Bradley

Figure 14 Meeting, June 1988, Cologne – Professor Hans-Dieter Pape

Fifth Row: (Staff), (staff), (staff), Cook, Merks, Jones, English
 Fourth Row: Sear, Rowse, Mason, Henderson, McAndrew, Alty
 Third Row: Barnard, Gorman, Alty, Quant, Banks
 Second Row: Smith, O'Neil, James, Bradley, Pape, Simpson
 Front Row: Ward-Booth, Whitlock, Crewe, Selwyn, (staff), Wilson

Figure 15 Lisbon, 1964

a) Warrack, (staff), Howe, Heslop, Taylor

**Figure 15** b) R.S. Taylor, Pain, D.V. Taylor, Moule**Figure 15** c) Heslop, Warrack

Reviewing the minutes over the years, the subject of membership continues to emerge at various times. In June 1978 it had fallen to thirty-four active members and seventeen honorary members, which is the lowest it has been since January 1948. Since then the figure fluctuates with an upward trend, and today the membership is full with fifty active members and fifty-two honorary members. The subject of women taking part in the meetings, let alone becoming members, has been a delicate affair as the Club was perceived as being an all-male organisation. At the Edinburgh meeting in March 1950 it is minuted, 'All persons (not being members of the Club) who demonstrate to the Club or read papers to the Club should be Club guests.' The President for the year at his meeting in Canterbury was concerned that, because of this perception, he would not be able to bring one of his lecturers, a very eminent person in her field, to the Club dinner. He was advised that there was no difficulty, after all the Club, in its 50th Anniversary Year in 1987, went to Salzburg to Professor Helene Matras' unit, another highly successful meeting. The question as to why the Club appears not to have any women members arises. Firstly, there are very few women consultants in the speciality, which

mitigates against them becoming members. However, two highly distinguished women were elected members at the Annual General Meeting in November 2000. Speculation as to what the founders of the Club might have felt with these elections is intriguing, but they probably would have reacted favourably. The concepthor, Rupert Sutton Taylor, was the first consultant oral surgeon to have a woman senior registrar, Isobelle Thompson, in 1961. He was ribbed by some of his illustrious colleagues as might be imagined, but she became the first woman regional consultant oral surgeon in the UK, being appointed to Eastbourne. Alan Weldon Moule was another who, shortly after, had Miss Nina Shotts as his senior registrar, and she became consultant at the West Middlesex Hospital.

The Club has changed in subtle ways: geographical spread has always been important, and any London domination was countered by the twenty-five percent rule. Looking at the present list, the distribution is fairly even across the country and reflects the population distribution. The distribution pattern of the whole membership since the Club's inception is very similar to that of the current membership, both active and honorary. As for London, only three of the fifty active members and five of the fifty-two honorary members represent the Capital, just eight percent in all. This is the result of amalgamation of so many hospitals and the inevitable reduction in numbers of consultant staff. It would seem that a London-based dominance is highly unlikely (*Figures 16a, 16b, 16c*).

So, are the Club members playing crucial roles in the speciality and dentistry? The answer is a most affirmative "yes". They are involved with the Royal Colleges, they are involved in all spheres of education and training including the Universities, they are amongst the advisors to Government, they are involved with the British Dental Association at many levels and they are involved often at a high level with European professional associations. Are they advancing the science and art of oral surgery? Again, most certainly, yes. The names of members are regularly in the published scientific literature and figure prominently in the annual scientific programmes of the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

In 1962, Rupert Sutton Taylor decided that he had made his contribution and retired from the secretaryship of the Club, and the following year handed over the treasurership after twenty-five years fulfilling the dual post. He was made President the following year. However, also in 1962, the British Association of Oral Surgeons was founded with Taylor and some Club members on the Steering Committee. In his speech to the Club when standing down from the secretaryship in Ipswich on 18 October, which was recorded on tape, he thought that the Club's purpose would fade with the advent of the new specialty association: the Club would be eclipsed. He thought that the Club would become just a very exclusive dining club. He was correct about most

things, but with this he was wrong. The two organisations fulfil two very different purposes and, thirty-eight years after that speech, the Oral Surgery Club of Great Britain is thriving and, sixty-four years young, it is still at the cutting edge.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to thank members of the Club for some of the material used and for verbal contributions. The majority of the material was gained directly from the written archive, but acknowledgements are due to the Oxford University Press, the publishers of the *Oxford Dictionary*, for the quotation of Wellington, and to Longmans, the publishers of the *Chronicle of the 20th Century*, for the contemporary historical facts.

Figure 16 Membership Distribution Maps

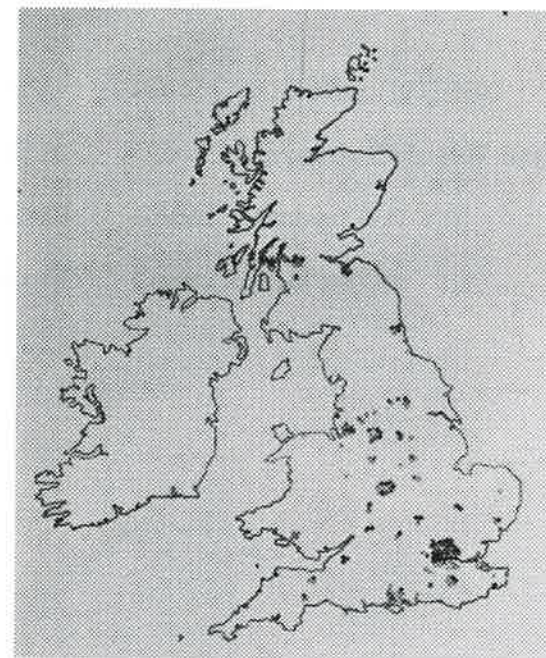
a) 1937-1938 – light dots, Founder Members



Figure 16 b) 2000 – light dots, Active Members



Figure 16 c) 1937-2000 – light dots, Active Members



APPENDICES

- Appendix I* List of Club Members, 1937-2000
Appendix II Office Holders of the Club, 1937-2000
Appendix III Scientific Meetings, 1937-2000
Appendix IV Current Rules of the Club

APPENDIX I

List of Club Members, 1937-2000

1936	Rupert Sutton Taylor (Conceptor and Secretary)	London		
1937	Professor T. Talmage Read (First Chairman of Committee, 1936/37)	Leeds	First Committee Members Nov '37	Steering Committee
	S.H. Woods (Maj.)	Army		
	T. Hall Fenton	Grimsby		
	Professor F.C. Wilkinson	Manchester		
	Harold Round	Birmingham		
	A.E. Rowlett	Leicester		
	J.S.H. Collinge	Southport		
	D.Fyfe	Glasgow	Founder	
	Hamilton Bailey (Gen. Surg.)	London	Members	
	J.D. Cambrook	London		
	H.E. Barker	Liverpool		
	A. Cubie	Glasgow		
	L.M. Young	Ayr		
	A. Pain	Folkestone		
	G. Froggatt	Sheffield		
	A.E. Meeson	Liverpool		
	R. Payne	London		
	A. Drummond (Maj.)	Army		
	A.M. Nodine	London		
	L S. Hanreck	Horsham		
Nov 1937	Professor G.I. Roberts	Sheffield		
	Professor H.H. Stones	Liverpool		
	A.M. Milne	Bradford		
	T. Jackson	Cheltenham		
	F.H. Bentley (Plastic Surg.)	Manchester		
	C. Read (Radiologist)	Glasgow		
	H. Selby-Brown	London		
	J. Vidler	Windsor		
	L. Russell Marsh	London		
	Mr. Oldfield (Gen. Surg.)	Leeds		
Feb 1938	J. Hayes	?		
	L. Gibson	Kilmarnock		
	E.A. Hardy	London		

Jan 1939	R.A. Broderick	Birmingham
	D.S. Middleton	Edinburgh
	R.O. Walker	Birmingham
	C.D. Farris	Cambridge
	T.G. Scott (Pathologist)	Glasgow
	Davis Thomas	Birmingham
Mar 1947	W. Kelsey Fry	London
	Ernest White	London
	Professor R. Bradlaw	Newcastle
	J.T. Wood (Surg. Capt.)	Navy
Jan. 1948	A.W. Moule	Manchester
	L.K.H. Benson	Manchester
	T.G. Ward	Hastings
	T. Cradock Henry	London
	G. Macphee	Liverpool
	Professor A.D. Hitchen	Dundee
	Professor J. Boyes	Newcastle
	B. St J. Steadman	London
	R. Cocker	London
Mar 1949	Professor A.J. Darling	Bristol
	F.G. Gibb	Edinburgh
Apr 1950	B.V. Janes	Manchester
	G. Fitzgibbon (Plastic Surg.)	Bristol
Apr 1951	G. Hankey	London
	J. Snawdon	Bristol
	F.T. Monks	Bolton
	D.C. Paley-Battersea (G. Capt.)	Royal Air Force
1952	No elections	
Apr 1953	B.W. Fickling	Northwood
1954	No elections	
Jan 1955	R. Battle (Plastic Surg.)	London
Mar 1956	Professor I.R.H. Kramer	London
	D.V. Taylor (Brig.)	Army
	Professor Alec McGregor	Birmingham
Oct 1957	J.H. Hovell	London
1958	No elections	
May 1959	H.M. Crombie	Aberdeen
	D. Downton	London
	V.E. Ireland	Ipswich
	Professor G.L. Howe	Newcastle
	F.G. Hardman	Rhyl
	R. Whitlock	Belfast

	Professor H.G. Radden	Manchester
Jan 1960	H.P. Cook	London
	I.H. Heslop	Woking
Oct 1961	P.A. Bramley	Plymouth
	W.D. MacLennan	Edinburgh
	D. Penney	Bradford
	N.I. Rowe	Roehampton
	G.M. Warrack	Edinburgh
Oct 1962	N. Hogan	Dublin
Oct 1963	E.J.R. Morgan	Swansea
	Professor H.C. Killey	London
	R. O'Neil	London
Sept 1964	J.R.V.B. Gibson	Chepstow
	B. Hales	Stoke
	W.R. Roberts	Worcester
Sept 1965	H.M. Alty	Liverpool
	T.G. Battersby	Nottingham
	P. James	London
1966	No elections	
Nov 1967	P. Bradnum	Newcastle
	D. Hayton-Williams	Oxford
	P.H. Burke (Orthodontist)	Cambridge
	Professor E.D. Farmer	Liverpool
	G.S. Hoggins	Birmingham
Nov 1968	P.H.D. Lewars	Exeter
Nov 1969	Professor D. Poswillo	London
	J.H. Robertson (Maj. Gen.)	Army
1970	No elections	
1971	No elections	
Oct 1972	M.D. Awty	East Grinstead
	A.F. Hamilton	Cheltenham
	G.L. Manning	Stoke
	W. Simpson	Manchester
Oct 1973	R.L.G. Dawson (Plastic Surg.)	London
	P.A. Toller	Northwood
Nov 1974	J.C. Bradley	Burnley
	T.I. English	London
	J. Rayne	Oxford
Oct 1975	T.C. Crewe	Plymouth
	W. Gray	Ipswich
	M.S. Jones	Wolverhampton
	D.S. Smith	Canterbury

	G. Smith (Brig.)	Army
1977	No elections	
Oct 1978	Professor G.R. Seward	London
	P.R. Barton	Oxford
	K.R. Ray	Reading
	A.J. Quant (G. Capt.)	Royal Air Force
	J.M. Gorman	Belfast
	D. Wilson	London
Oct 1979	D. Henderson	London
	P. Banks	East Grinstead
	P.B. Clarke	Aberdeen
Oct 1980	Professor D.A. McGowan	Glasgow
	J.Ll. Williams	Chichester
1981	No elections	
Oct 1982	P. Selwyn	Nottingham
	D.A. Mason	Bradford
Oct 1983	B.D.G. Morgan (Plastic Surg.)	London
	A.J. Sear	Worcester
	G.T. Cheney	Norwich
Nov 1984	T.G. Emerson	Londonderry
Oct 1985	T.J.C. Hall (Surg. Capt.)	Navy
	Professor P.F. Bradley	Edinburgh
	M.J. Newell (Brig.)	Army
Oct 1986	P.J. Leopard	Stoke
	R.P. Ward-Booth	Sunderland
	C.W. Rowse	Swansea
	M.J.C. Wake	Birmingham
Oct. 1987	P.G. McAndrew	Rotherham
	J.D.W. Barnard	Portsmouth
Oct. 1988	M.E. Foster	Manchester
	L. Oldham	Taunton
	R.P. Juniper	Oxford
Oct 1989	K.F. Moos	Glasgow
Oct 1990	J.E. Hawkesford	Newcastle
	J.C. Lowry	Bolton
	G.A. Wood	North Wales
	R.J. Tate	Ipswich
	D.O. Matthews (Air C'dore)	Royal Air Force
Oct 1991	B.S. Avery	Middlesborough
	J.I. Cawood	Chester
	K.M. Lavery	West Midlands
	A.F. Markus	Poole

	A.V. Babajews	Exeter
Nov 1992	B.M.W. Bailey	Roehampton
	M. Corrigan	Leeds
	D.R. James	London
	R.A. Smart (Brig.)	Army
	E.D. Vaughan	Liverpool
Nov 1993	S.F. Olley	Shrewsbury
	R.W. Kendrick	Belfast
	M.T. Simpson	Luton
Nov 1994	J.F. Hamlyn	Taunton
	B.G. Millar West	Midlands
	D.W. Patton	Swansea
Nov 1995	A.E. Brown East	Grinstead
	T.W. Negus (Air C'dore)	Royal Air Force
	P.J. Weller	Southend
Nov 1996	Professor J.W. Frame	Birmingham
Nov 1997	K. Jones	Derby
	G. Lello	Edinburgh
	D. Macpherson	Chichester
Nov 1998	J.S. Brown	Liverpool
	I. Hutchinson	London
	Professor M. McGurk	London
	G. Zaki	Portsmouth
Nov 1999	L.F.A. Stasseh	Sunderland
	R. Woodward	Manchester
	B.T. Evans	Southampton
	A.W. Sugar	Swansea
Nov 2000	M.E. Morton	Blackburn
	S.E. Fisher	Leeds
	N. Baker	Southampton
	C. Beirne	Dublin
	S. Dover	Birmingham
	J. Hayter	Leicester
	I.H. McVicar	Nottingham
	T. Mellor	Portsmouth
	P. Ramsay-Baggs	Dundonald
	N.C. Renny	Aberdeen

Overseas Honorary Membership

1949	Dr J. Tjebbes	Utrecht
1966	Professor H. Obwegeser	Zurich
1970	Professor R. Becker	Munster
1972	Professor C.A. Merkx	Nijmegen
1976	Professor R. Mayer	Brussels
1981	Professor P. Egyedi	Utrecht
1988	Professor H-D Pape	Cologne
1992	Professor B. Gattinger	Linz
1993	Professor H. Sailer	Zurich
1997	Professor E. Machtens	Bochum

APPENDIX II

*Office Holders of the Club, 1937-2000*Presidents

1937	Professor T. Talmage Read	Leeds
1938	Professor T. Talmage Read	Leeds
1939	A.E. Rowlett	Leicester
1947	A.E. Rowlett	Leicester
1948	Professor F.C. Wilkinson	Manchester
1949	F.H. Bentley	Manchester
1950	D.S. Middleton	Edinburgh
1951	Professor H.H. Stones	Liverpool
1952	A. Cubie	Glasgow
1953	Col. R.A. Broderick	Birmingham
1954	Professor T. Talmage Read	Leeds
1955	Professor F.C. Wilkinson	London
1956	Professor A.D. Hitchen	Dundee
1957	C.D. Farris	Cambridge
1957/58	Maj. Gen. A. Drummond	Army
1959	A.W. Moule	Manchester
1960	Professor A.I. Darling	Bristol
1961	T.G. Scott	Glasgow
1962/63	A. Pain	Folkestone
1963/64	R.S. Taylor	London
1964/65	Professor G.L. Howe	Newcastle
1965/66	J.H. Hovell	London
1966/67	J.D. Cambrook	London
1967/68	T.C. Henry	London
1968/69	Air C'dore D.C. Paley-Battersea	Royal Air Force
1969/70	R.O. Walker	Birmingham
1970/71	F.T. Monks	Bolton
1971/72	J.S.H. Collinge	Southport
1972/73	F.G. Hardman	Rhyl
1973/74	B.W. Fickling	Northwood
1974/75	I.H. Heslop	Guildford
1975/76	Maj. Gen. J.H. Robertson	Army
1976/77	D. Downton	London
1977/78	R. Whitlock	Belfast
1978/79	J.R.V.B. Gibson	Chepstow
1979/80	H.P. Cook	London

1980/81	D. Penney	Bradford
1981/82	E.J.R. Morgan	Swansea
1982/83	W.D. MacLennan	Edinburgh
1983/84	P.H.D. lewars	Exeter
1984/85	H.M. Alty	Liverpool
1985/86	Professor Sir Paul Bramley	Sheffield
1986/87	G.L. Manning	Stoke
1987/8	P. James	London
1988/9	D.C. Smith	Canterbury
1989/90	T.C. Crewe	Plymouth
1990/91	W. Gray	Ipswich
1991/92	P.B. Clarke	Aberdeen
1992/93	D. Henderson	London
1993/94	J.C. Bradley	Burnley
1994/95	W. Simpson	Manchester
1995/96	G.T. Cheney	Norwich
1996/97	J.Ll. Williams	Chichester
1997/98	C.W. Rowse	Swansea
1998/99	K.F. Moos	Glasgow
1999/00	R.P. Juniper	Oxford
2000/01	P.G. McAndrew	Rotherham

Honorary Secretaries

1937-1963	R.S. Taylor
1963-1974	I.H. Heslop
1974-1983	R. O'Neil
1983-1990	J.C. Bradley
1990-2000	M.E. Foster
2000 to date	A.E. Babajews

Honorary Treasurers

1937-1963	R.S. Taylor
1963-1986	D. Downton
1986 to date	P. Banks

Honorary Archivists

1980-88	A.W. Moule
1988-99	D. Downton
1999 to date	J.C. Bradley

APPENDIX III

Scientific Meetings, 1937-2000

1937	LEEDS	26-28 November	Talmage Read
1938	BERLIN	4 June <i>cancelled</i>	
1938	BIRMINGHAM	24-25 June	Talmage Read
1939	LEICESTER	27-28 January	Rowlett
1947	CHELTENHAM	28 February-2 March	Rowlett
1947	UTRECHT	4-8 September	Rowlett
1948	MANCHESTER	9-10 January	Wilkinson
1948	DUBLIN	17-20 September	Wilkinson
1949	NEWCASTLE	25-26 March	Bentley
1949	BRISTOL	23-25 September	Bentley
1950	EDINBURGH	30 March 30-2 April	Middleton
1950	LONDON	27-28 October	Middleton
1951	LIVERPOOL	13-14 April	Stones
1951	PARIS	24-28 October	Stones
1952	GLASGOW	24-27 April	Cubie
1952	LONDON	29 November	Cubie
1953	BIRMINGHAM	24-25 April	Broderick
1953	LEEDS	17-19 December	Talmage Read
1954	BRUSSELS	3-7 June	Talmage Read
1954	<i>no UK meeting</i>		
1955	LONDON	14-15 January	Wilkinson
1955	COPENHAGEN	11-15 August	Wilkinson
1956	DUNDEE	22-24 January	Hitchen
1956	GRONINGEN	27-30 September	Hitchen
1957	CAMBRIDGE	13-14 April	Farris
1957	LONDON	25-26 October	Drummond
1958	ZURICH	16-19 October	Drummond
1958	<i>no UK meeting</i>		
1959	MANCHESTER	1-2 May	Moule
1959	NEW YORK	September	Moule
1960	BRISTOL	28-30 January	Darling
1960	<i>no overseas meeting</i>		
1961	MADRID	27 April-1 May	Darling
1961	BELFAST	19-21 October	Scott
1962	IPSWICH	18-20 October	Pain
1962	<i>no overseas meeting</i>		
1963	VIENNA	3-6 April	Pain
1963	LONDON	26-27 October	Taylor

1964	LISBON	8-11 April	Taylor
1964	NEWCASTLE	24-26 September	Howe
1965	LYONS	21-24 April	Howe
1965	LONDON	18-20 September	Hovell
1966	ZURICH	14-17 April	Hovell
1966	PLYMOUTH	9-11 June	Cambrook
1967	<i>no overseas meeting</i>		
1967	LONDON	9-10 November	Henry
1968	PARIS	5-7 June <i>cancelled</i>	
1968	LONDON & FARNBOROUGH	7-8 November	Paley-Battersea
1969	PARIS	21-23 May	Paley-Battersea
1969	BIRMINGHAM	6-8 November	Walker
1970	MUNSTER	24-27 June	Walker
1970	BOLTON	22-23 October	Monks
1971	OSLO	5-8 May	Monks
1971	SOUTHPORT	21-22 October	Collinge
1972	NIJMEGAN	24-27 May	Collinge
1972	RHYL	26-28 October	Hardman
1973	PRAGUE	30 May-2 June	Hardman
1973	NORTHWOOD	25-27 October	Fickling
1974	<i>no overseas meeting</i>		
1974	GUILDFORD	31 October-1 November	Heslop
1975	BORDEAUX	25-30 May	Heslop
1975	ALDERSHOT	30-31 October	Robertson
1976	BRUSSELS	3-4 June	Robertson
1976	LONDON	28-29 October	Downton
1977	DUBLIN	30 June - 1 July	Downton
1977	BELFAST	26-28 October	Whitlock
1978	LONDON	29-30 June	Whitlock
1978	CHEPSTOW	26-27 October	Gibson
1979	NANCY	31 May-1 June	Gibson
1979	LONDON	25-26 October	Cook
1980	FREIBURG	2-3 June	Cook
1980	BRADFORD	23-24 October	Penney
1981	NANTES	6-7 May	Penney
1981	SWANSEA	29-30 October	Morgan
1982	UTRECHT	6-7 May	Morgan
1982	EDINBURGH	28-29 October	MacIennan
1983	MUNSTER	5-6 May	MacIennan
1983	EXETER	27-28 October	Lewars
1984	STRASBOURG	11-12 April	Lewars

1984	LIVERPOOL	1-2 November	Alty
1985	BUDAPEST	13-14 June	Alty
1985	SHEFFIELD	31 October-1 November	Bramley
1986	NIJMEGAN	24-25 April	Bramley
1986	STOKE	30-31 October	Manning
1987	SALZBURG	25-26 March	Manning
1987	LONDON	29-30 October	James
1988	COLOGNE	2-3 June	James
1988	CANTERBURY	27-28 October	Smith
1989	ATHENS	11-12 May	Smith
1989	PLYMOUTH	26-27 October	Crewe
1990	MONTPELIER	17-18 May	Crewe
1990	IPSWICH	25-26 October	Gray
1991	PARMA	2-3 May	Gray
1991	ABERDEEN	31 October-1 November	Clarke
1992	LINZ	4-5 June	Clarke
1992	LONDON	12-13 November	Henderson
1993	ZURICH	5-7 June	Henderson
1993	BURNLEY	4-5 November	Bradley
1994	HELSINKI	19-20 May	Bradley
1994	MANCHESTER	3-4 November	Simpson
1995	BRUGGE	3-6 May	Simpson
1995	NORWICH	2-3 November	Cheney
1996	LEIPZIG	16-18 May	Cheney
1996	CHICHESTER	7-8 November	Williams
1997	BOCHUM	16-19 April	Williams
1997	SWANSEA	6-7 November	Rowse
1998	MADRID	6-9 May	Rowse
1998	GLASGOW	12-13 November	Moos
1999	AMSTERDAM	6-7 May	Moos
1999	OXFORD	4-5 November	Juniper
2000	ISRAEL	24-26 May	Juniper
2000	ROTHERHAM	2-3 November	McAndrew
2001	AMIENS	10-11 May	McAndrew

APPENDIX IV

Current Rules of the Club

- (1) That the CLUB be known as the ORAL SURGERY CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN.
- (2) That the objects of the CLUB be to advance the Science and Art of Oral Surgery.
- (3) That membership be of two kinds, Active and Honorary.
- (4) That Active Membership be open to those persons up to the age of 65 years who specialize in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, or hold a clinically active Hospital Appointment or other appointment embracing Oral Surgery, and who possess a Dental and/or Medical qualification registrable in the United Kingdom.
Membership is limited to fifty Active Members.
- (5) That all persons desiring to become Active Members be required to satisfy the Committee that they are eligible under Rule 4.
Candidates for membership must be sponsored by a member and supported by at least two other members. Their election will be carried out at a meeting of the CLUB on report by the Committee.
- (6) That the Membership of any Active member who fails to attend at least one Meeting during a period of two years shall lapse, unless the explanation given by such Member for non-attendance is considered satisfactory by the Committee.
- (7) That the CLUB be administered by a Committee consisting of the President, Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and four other members.
- (8) That the subscription be £25.00 per annum or such sum as may be decided from time to time by a General Meeting of the CLUB.
The financial year of the CLUB shall commence on September 1st of each year.
- (9) That all cheques be signed by the Treasurer and counter-signed by one or other Member of the Committee. All monies received on behalf of the CLUB be paid in to the CLUB account at the National Westminster Bank, 40, Whitgift Centre, Croydon, CR9 30B.

2 November 2000