

The 2015 Meeting of the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF HISTORY OF OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY in the charming city of Heidelberg has been a huge success!



John Riddington Young (with hat) – Kees Graamans – Rinze Tange – Robert Ruben – Wolf Lübbers – Michael Künze – Albert Mudry

Front row from left to the right : Elisabeth Riddington Young – Egbert Huizing – Wolfgang Pirsig – Peter Alberti – Roman Sokiranski

Background: the « Haus Buhl » belonging to the Heidelberg University where the meeting took place.



A selection of historic instruments from the Lübbers Collection was presented at Heidelberg during the meeting of the Society.

These are the abstracts of the papers presented during this reunion:

Robert J Ruben, New York

Comparing Vesalius' descriptions of the ear in text and illustrations in the 1543 and 1555 editions of De Humani Corporis Fabrica, and in marginalia, recently discovered, in what is likely his copy of the second edition that appear to anticipate a 3rd edition never published. How, if at all, did Vesalius' ideas about the ear develop over time? This paper analyses and compares the text and illustrations concerning the anatomy of the ear in his two published editions, 1543 and 1555, of De Humani Corporis Fabrica and in marginalia, recently identified, in what is likely the author's copy of the second edition, that appear to anticipate a 3rd edition, never published. This study is based upon examination of the original editions in the New York Academy of Medicine, on the annotated English translations by D. H. Garrison and M. H. Hast (2013), and on Vivian Nutton's translation of Vesalius' marginalia concerning the ear in what is evidently Vesalius' own annotated copy of the 1555 edition (in Medical History, 2012). Vesalius' corrections and clarifications are noted and his final description is compared with current knowledge of the anatomy of the ear.

Albert Mudry, Lausanne

Quality scale for historical research papers

To write a historical research paper one must follow some methodological rules. The aim of this presentation is to discuss a recently proposed quality scale for historical research papers in a pilot study. Two papers published within the last few months about the history of OHNS, emphasize the main points, notably the mention of limitations and bias, the importance to have original critically treated sources, the study and acknowledgment of the historical context and previous scholarship in the field.

Egbert H. Huizing, Utrecht

A Sordid Chapter Indeed

The 1st issue of the journal *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery* published in 1978 opens with a lengthy article on the history of plastic surgery by Frank McDowell of St Louis. In this publication we find a remarkable paragraph entitled 'A sordid Chapter'. It contains, among physicians quite unusual, verbal attack on a group of American ORL surgeons who under the guidance of Maurice Cottle of Chicago (who's name it not mentioned in the article) were developing new techniques of reconstructive nasal surgery aiming at improving nasal function rather than facial beauty. This attack was started by the wellknown plastic surgeon Joseph Safian of New York City, a pupil of Joseph in Berlin, in articles in the journal of *Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery* in 1947 and 1956. The unusually offending remarks uttered in these three publications are unique in the history of ORL. "It turned out into a real battle, and not just one of words" as Robert Simmons wrote in the 25th anniversary book of the American Academy of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery in 1989.

Wolf Lübbers, Hannover

Collecting historic ENT instruments

What would we be without our instruments? Instruments transmit our will and our force. We should appreciate them. The author presents historical ENT instruments, which have been collected since 4 generations in his family. The lecture explains instruments and reports on persons who coined them. For example, the specula of Itard's, Kramer's and Brunton's ear specula are demonstrated, and the reflecting mirror of Troeltsch, Czermak, Semeleder and Clar; instruments for hearing tests of Politzer, Lucae and Struycken. The tonsillotomes of Physics, Fahnestock and Mathieu and the adenotoms of La Force and Beckmann are in the collection. Finally, utensils for nasal care and some items of quack medicine are presented.

Peter W Alberti, Toronto

Some account of the Lord Borringdon's accident on the 21 July 1817 and its consequences.

A 12 year old boy, walking through a field in July 1816 was chewing an ear of rye when he

aspirated. He died in November 1816, in Paris where he had been taken for treatment from a pulmonary abscess. He was of noble birth, his sickness occasioned a great deal of energy to be expended in his care and yet in spite of blistering, bleeding and leeches he succumbed. He was taken back to England and state, given an elegiac funeral and buried in Devon. The whole illness was documented in a finely produced book (in my possession) written to commemorate the whole event which included poetry written in his memory, both in English and Latin. A monument was erected in his honour -

'Some account of Lord Boringdon's accident on 21 July, 1817 and its consequences.

Anonymous 47 pages, two engravings.' This illustrates both the danger of bronchotracheal foreign bodies prior to the age of bronchoscopy and the enormous difference to care resulting from social class and wealth which will be discussed. For all of the care that was lavished upon the young Lord, the outcome was no different than had he been a pauper.

John Riddington Young, West Barton, Horwood

The father of pediatrics

Thomas Phaer was certainly a very remarkable man; he was a great translator, rather than a great physician and he was also a lawyer and a politician. Inspired by Luther and Tyndale he did for law and medicine what they had done for Religion. He translated French and Latin paediatric texts into English, but he is perhaps best remembered for his first English translation of Virgil's Aeneid. He certainly wrote the first English book on paediatrics, which includes interesting and valuable insights into contemporary views on brain abscess, otalgia, sneezing, gangrenous stomatitis and quinsy.

Kees Graamans, Nijmegen

The importance of illustrations in ORL; the work of dr. H. J.L. Struycken (1869-1950)

The progress of the ORL-profession in the Netherlands is almost exclusively brought about by scientific activities in the tertiary university centres. There is, however, one exception: dr. Hubert J.L. Struycken (1869-1950). This doctor started practicing otolaryngology in 1897 in Breda. After 1905 he could dispose of his own private, rather small ORL clinical facility. He continued his work until his decease in 1950. He had his developed clinical and surgical skills by visiting famous centres abroad, such as in Göttingen, Paris and Berlin. Undoubtedly this also has triggered his scientific interest. For him the scientific focus was on hearing disorders, phoniatics and the evaluation of diagnostic and surgical procedures. Surgery had to be done with appropriate instruments that were hardly available in the beginning of the 20th century. Dr. Struycken was a talented instrument maker and had his own laboratory. Some instruments he designed still are in use today. During his career Dr. Struycken has written around 250 scientific papers and he has given many presentations in national and international congresses, in Dutch, German or French. Scientific publications in our specialty use to be illustrated. The demonstration of a surgical procedure, the design of an instrument and the presentation of research data require explanation and clarification in order to provide insight into the complicated reality. To this

end photographs may be useful, but drawings use to be by far superior: photographs merely present the reality, whereas drawings allow to highlight the central issue of a message. In the beginning of the 20th century photographic techniques were available, but dr. Struycken also preferred to illustrate his publications with his own drawings. He was not only a good instrument maker, but appeared to be a gifted medical illustrator as well. The drawings of dr. Struycken are rather unique in such a way that they have a remarkable simplicity, thus enhancing the understanding of a variety of ORL-subjects. A series of the illustrations of dr. Struycken is demonstrated.

Rinze A Tange, Utrecht

The tenotomy of the tensor tympani

Recently a few papers appeared on re-introduction of the tenotomy of the tensor tympani as treatment of Meniere's disease and hearing loss. In this presentation we take you back to 1874 when Weber-Liel from Berlin presented the first results of "his newly surgical treatment" of vertigo and hearing loss. Many famous otologists in Europe and the USA followed Weber-Liel. Initial success of the treatment was reported but soon these results proved to be not long lasting and in some cases dramatic hearing loss occurred. Middle ear surgery was abandoned at the turn of the 19th century and so the tenotomy of the tensor tympani. In this respect the re-introduction of the tenotomy is interesting.

Wolfgang Pirsig, Kurt Wehrberger, Ulm

The ears of the Lion Man carved by Homo sapiens in the Ice Age

About 40,000 years ago, the Lion Man-sculpture (31.1 cm large) was carved from a tusk of a mammoth. It was excavated from the Stadel-cave on the Swabian Jura near Ulm/Germany between 1937-1939 and 2009-2013. By the combination of characteristics of a cave lion with human attributes this therianthrope figurine is considered to be a special proof for an evolved belief-system of early modern humans. Especially the precise, slightly different depiction of the left and right ear seems to indicate an animal listening in watchful tension. This proves not only a very detailed anatomical observation, but also the capability to give expression to a sensory function while carving the lion's head of the statuette. The auricles of the Lion Man are compared with those of some lion-figurines from the early upper paleolithic, while we miss any depictions of human ears from this period.

Roman Sokiranski, Bärbel Ziemann-Becker, Wolfgang Pirsig, Maria Teschler-Nicola, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, Ulm, Wien

Cholesteatoma in the second millenium BC

In four of 185 temporal bones from 100 individuals excavated from the Early Bronze Age (about 2000 BC) cemetery Franzhausen II in Lower Austria, signs of probable cholesteatomas due to typical bony lesions were detected using surgical microscope and

flexible endoscope in 1990 and helical CT in 2013 - 2015. A cholesteatoma is a soft tissue tumor ranging between 1 mm and several cm in diameter. Thus it quickly disappears postmortally and can only be recognized with a certain probability because of typical bony alterations in archaeological remains. In this presentation we focus on the virtual 3D visualization of the temporal bone of ca. 4000 years old specimens using the modern possibilities of 3D helical CT reconstruction.

Wolfgang Pirsig, Ulm

The human trachea, punched in gold and found in Assur from about 1300 BC

In 1909, the archaeologist Walter Andrae and his team found a hoard in the area of the Ashur-temple in Assur, among them two bronze crosses, two cylinder seals, a golden platelet with a bull-man, and a golden platelet with the human chest. In the last platelet (height 5.0 cm, breadth 3.3 cm), a trachea of 1.7 cm with 9 tracheal rings was punched in a nature-like way. On the large bronze cross, a text of the donation in cuneiform letters was deciphered. Its possible meaning is discussed. As to my knowledge, this is the earliest depiction of the human trachea in the history of Medicine

***HISTORIA OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGIAE** expects to publish these papers in their original form in due time.*