



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

*To foster love of and pride in Australian citizenship and
to uphold the high principles and prestige of the Order of Australia*

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION PUBLIC EVENT

AUSTRALIA HOUSE The Strand, London WC2
Wednesday 18 November 2015 at 6pm

Reception and talk by
JOHN BOND OAM

From 1998 until 2006 John Bond was the Secretary of Australia's National Sorry Day Committee, which enlisted nearly a million Australians in an apology to Aboriginal Australians for cruel and misguided past policies, and in initiatives to overcome the harm caused. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the Australian community through the National Sorry Day Committee.

He has worked with the NGO Initiatives of Change for many years, including six years in Zimbabwe and three in Ethiopia. He is now based in Oxford, England. Since 2009 he has coordinated the Caux Forum for Human Security, which annually brings several hundred people active in human security to Caux in Switzerland. This has led him into work to advance reconciliation, combat corruption and other human security initiatives in Eastern Europe and several African countries.

He is also a writer, and has worked with several well-known Australians to tell their stories, including 'Father of the House', the memoirs of Kim E Beazley, former Federal Minister for Education, published by Fremantle Press in 2009. He co-authored a biography of Jerzy Zubrzycki, the Polish-Australian known as 'the father of Australian multiculturalism', which was published by Grosvenor Books Australia last year and launched by former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.

From their home in Oxford, John and his wife Mary are regularly in touch with Australian indigenous students who, as recipients of awards and scholarships, are pursuing their studies at the University.

The Order of Australia Association UK/Europe, based in London, has invited John to speak at Australia House on **Wednesday 18 November 2015 at 6pm**, as the OAA UK's main public event for the year. What he has to say will undoubtedly be thought-provoking and stimulating.



A CAREER IN TRANSPLANTATION

PETER J MORRIS AC, FRS

My first exposure to kidney transplantation was at the Royal Post graduate Medical school at the Hammersmith Hospital in 1962. At that time I was the resident surgical officer there and a kidney transplant was carried out by two pioneers in the field, Ralph Shackman and James Dempster, between two general practitioner partners from Newbury. The healthy partner donated a kidney to his partner in renal failure but the only form of immunosuppression available then was total body irradiation and some weeks later the recipient partner died of overwhelming infection. The two general practitioners were incredibly popular with their patients who established a Foundation to support research in renal disease. I only mention this because some 12 years later I came to Oxford as the Nuffield Professor of Surgery with one major objective, namely to establish a transplant programme in Oxford which at that time was one of the few Regions in the country that did not have a renal transplant programme. After I arrived the trustees of the Doctor Clarke fund, as it was known, thought it would be more appropriate to transfer the funds to the University of Oxford to support my transplant research programme. Undoubtedly that was a very strange coincidence as I had been there when the transplant was carried out in 1962 and then in 1974/75 or thereabouts, the fund was transferred to me at Oxford. In fact I did keep the Doctor Clarke Fund as a fund for donations from our patients right up until I retired and many thousands of pounds went into that fund over 30 years to support research in transplantation in my department.

* However I have to say that I was not too impressed with that first exposure to kidney transplantation at the Hammersmith Hospital but then at the end of 1963 I went to the Massachusetts General Hospital, the major teaching hospital of the Harvard Medical School, as a senior surgical resident where an embryo transplant unit was just being established there by Paul Russell, the new chief of surgery. This was quite impressive in terms of organisation and strangely enough after seeing the MGH programme in action I thought that indeed renal transplantation did have a future. After a year as a surgical resident at the MGH, where the hours were incredibly long, probably approximating 100 hours a week, I became a research fellow with Jack Burke, a very distinguished surgeon working on factors influencing surgical infection. I spent the next two years working on the immunology of inflammation and infection but learnt a lot of techniques that were to prove to be very useful to me in my subsequent career.

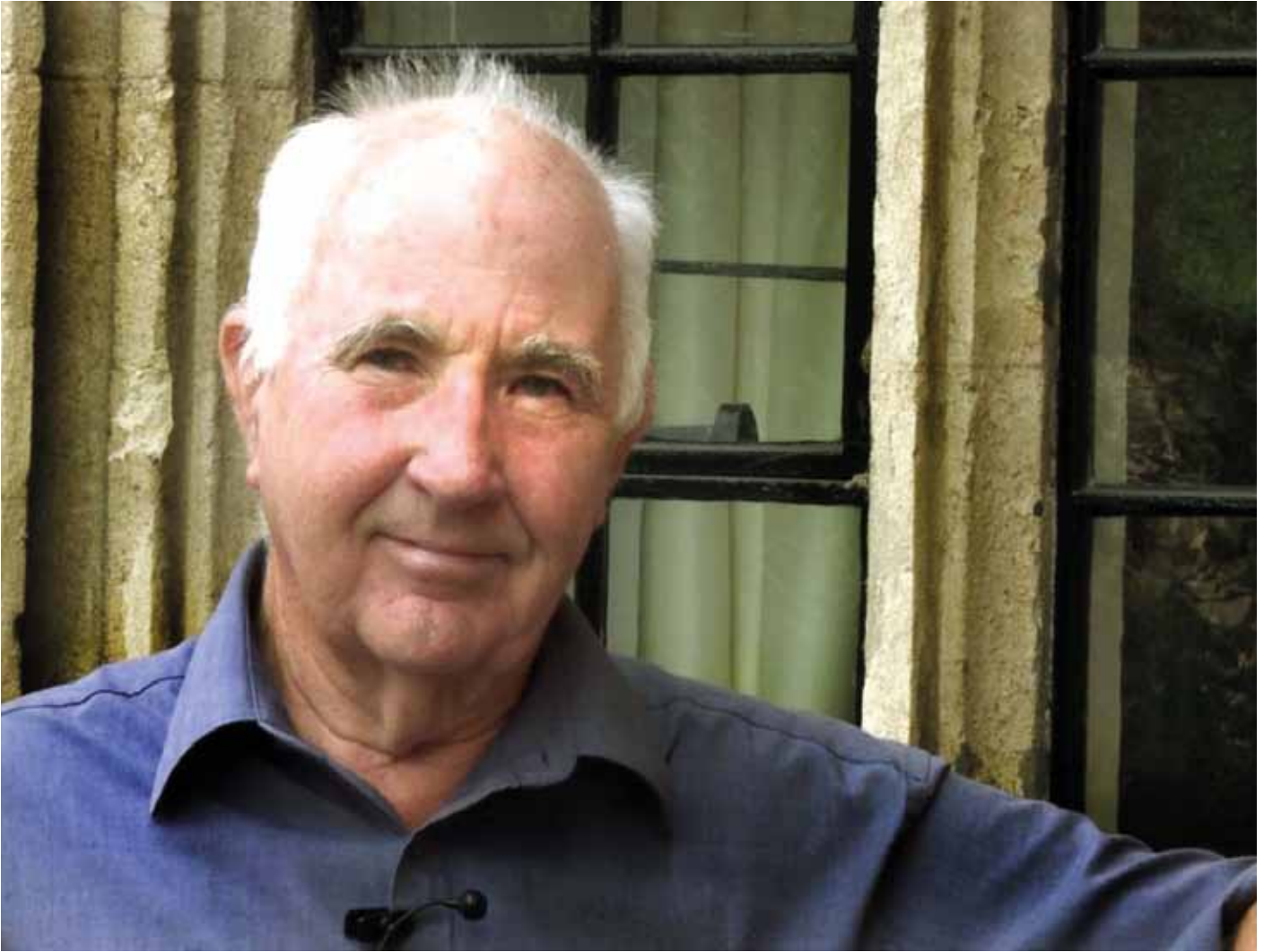
Towards the end of 1966 Professor Maurice Ewing, Head of the University Department of Surgery at the Royal Melbourne hospital phoned me to ask would I be interested in coming to his department and in particular establishing a tissue typing laboratory for their new transplant unit. I said yes I would be happy to do that and indeed Paul Russell arranged for me to visit the two pioneer tissue typing units in America but the one that really impressed me, and which I thought was light years ahead in terms of the technique of tissue typing, was the laboratory of Professor Paul Terasaki at UCLA in Los Angeles. Just before Christmas I had a call from Maurice Ewing to say that Melbourne University was undergoing a financial crisis and my job, which was a new one, had been frozen. He did say that in 6 months or so he felt that he could deal with that if I could stay at the MGH. Then a couple of days later I had a phone call from Dr David Hume, the Head of Surgery at the Medical College of Virginia. David Hume had moved from the Peter Brent Brigham Hospital at Boston to establish what was then the biggest renal transplant unit in the world. He had heard that my job had evaporated through a fellow resident surgical officer who I had gone out to Melbourne to work with Professor Gus Nossal for a year before going back to David Hume's unit.

Thus I said that I would come down and have a look but the big attraction was that he had a -120 degree centigrade freezer with serum samples taken from all the patients before and after transplantation. When I asked him what he was going to do with the sera he said that he was just waiting for someone to come along who knew what to do. I said I certainly knew what to do and could I have access to the sera. This was an enormously lucky break for me as it enabled me to discover that cytotoxic antibodies which reacted specifically with the donor appeared in many patients after transplantation and were associated with rejection. This finding was completely contrary to the dogma at the time, in that only a sub population of leucocytes, called lymphocytes, were considered responsible for rejection. The concept that antibodies could cause rejection did indeed take quite a few years to be accepted.

* Then I returned to Melbourne in the latter part of 1967 to join Maurice Ewing's department at the Royal Melbourne Hospital as a lowly third assistant, but steadily rose up the ranks to a Readership by 1971. I was involved in the new transplant programme headed by Professor Priscilla Kincaid-Smith and Dr Vernon Marshall at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and what two marvellous colleagues they were. I established a tissue typing laboratory again but also a major research laboratory in transplantation immunology. Then in 1973 I was invited to the Nuffield Chair of Surgery at the University of Oxford where they particularly wanted me to establish a renal transplant unit. I should add that Oxford had arguably the biggest dialysis unit for kidney failure patients in Europe but no transplant programme. After being flown over to inspect the situation I decided that Oxford had opportunities second to none, both clinically and scientifically.

* Thus after some considerable negotiations, at the age of 39 I accepted the chair at the University of Oxford. My wife, Jocelyn, and 5 children between the ages of 5 and 12 all travelled with me to Oxford but we broke the trip in Hawaii and Los Angeles including a day in Disneyland. We arrived in August 1974. I should say that I was responsible for an enormous surgical load but worked on establishing a renal transplant unit during the first 6 months and the first two transplants from a deceased donor were performed at around midnight at the end of January in 1975. Because the results of renal transplantation were so poor in the UK at that time, very few patients from the enormous number on dialysis (approximately 150) volunteered to go on the waiting list for a transplant but after the first two did so well there was a big rush to join the waiting list and the unit took off and was alive and well.

* At the same time I was successful in obtaining a Medical Research Council programme grant which supported the very large research programme in transplantation immunology in the Nuffield Department of Surgery for 20 years. Later I became interested in pancreatic transplantation and then particularly in the possibility of isolating and transplanting the islets of Langerhans from the pancreas. These islets, embedded in the pancreas organ, contain the cells that produce insulin. This seemed to me to be potentially a much safer



procedure than transplanting the whole pancreas. The islet programme was slow to get off the ground but eventually did and now is a very active programme in Oxford. So too is the kidney and pancreas transplant programmes which have grown exponentially and over 3000 transplants have been performed.

As I look back on my whole career in transplantation I think how fortunate I was to enter this discipline when it was new and exciting with enormous efforts directed at preventing and treating rejection of the organ and producing a good quality life after transplantation. When I retired in 2001 the transplant programme was extremely active but I had then been elected as President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England which was a very political job in a variety of ways but that is a story for another time. Having completed my three year tenure as President, I then received a grant to establish the Centre for Evidence in Transplantation (CET) which is devoted to evaluating the quality of evidence that we base our practice on in organ transplantation (www.transplantevidence.com). This has been another very successful venture and the CET is the knowledge centre for the European Society of Organ Transplantation. In addition it has produced an electronic library of all randomised controlled trials (highest level of evidence) in organ transplantation which is easy and quick to use. It is becoming increasingly popular throughout the transplant world. Thus I am not removed from the field of transplantation because of this although I no longer have a direct clinical involvement. Organ transplantation has now become a relatively routine procedure from the technical point of view but there are still lots of immunological problems to be resolved. There are huge research efforts worldwide directed at trying to produce tolerance in a recipient to an organ transplant. Tolerance is a phenomenon where the recipient would not recognise the organ, be it a kidney or a heart for example, as foreign and therefore not reject it and would need no immunosuppressive drugs to keep it in place. This has been achieved in experimental models in our laboratories and many others and also in a handful of patients but is a long way from becoming a routine approach to transplantation but I am sure that day will arrive, but hesitate to say when. It remains the dream of transplant clinicians and biologists.

All in all I have had a very exciting and rewarding career and regard myself as a lucky person not only in my work but also in having the essential ingredient for success, namely a very supportive wife, Jocelyn, for over 50 years!

How to become a Member of our Association check our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



THE CHILD MIGRANTS TRUST MARGARET HUMPHREYS OAM CBE

On the 13th December 1993 at Government House, Canberra the Governor-General, Bill Hayden AC, welcomed 20 former Child Migrants (one of whom was accompanied by her recently reunited mother from the UK) as guests at Margaret Humphreys' Investiture. Margaret wanted to share this important milestone of recognition with child migrants from every State in Australia and send them a powerful message of hope - that meeting a parent was a very real possibility despite decades of separation.

'Oranges and Sunshine' tells the story of Margaret Humphreys OAM CBE, who uncovered one of the most significant social scandals of recent times: the deportation of thousands of children from the United Kingdom.



They were promised oranges and sunshine: instead of this they experienced a hard life in institutions. Margaret's work continues to this day as a consultant all over the world.

The DVD of Oranges and Sunshine is available through the usual internet channels.

More information can be had at www.iconfilm.co.uk



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WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 6PM

Reception and Illustrated lecture by John Bond OAM

AUSTRALIA'S SORRY DAY AND THE JOURNEY OF HEALING

How a community movement changed the political approach



John Bond OAM with the one aboriginal MP in Parliament in 2005, Senator Aden Ridgeway

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Australians for cruel and misguided past policies, and in initiatives to overcome the harm caused. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the Australian community through the National Sorry Day Committee. From their home in Oxford, John and his wife Mary are regularly in touch with Australian indigenous students who, as recipients of awards and scholarships, are pursuing their studies at the University.

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