



# ASOHNS

The Australian Society of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery

## **Daniel Hains FRACS, FRCS, MBBS**

Daniel Hains graduated MB BS in Adelaide in 1966 and after RMO years at the Royal Adelaide Hospital travelled to the UK in 1968, initially to Edinburgh. He went on to work as an SHO in High Wycombe General Hospital with Dr. Esme Hadfield, who famously described the association of adenocarcinoma of the sinuses and woodworkers. Dr. Hadfield recognized his talents and arranged his appointment as registrar at the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford under the supervision of Ronald McBeth. Dan undertook further training at Addenbrooke's in Cambridge and qualified as FRCS in Otolaryngology in 1972.

He returned to Adelaide later that year and having gained his FRACS, commenced consultant practice at the Adelaide Children's Hospital. He joined the late Maurice Brown and the late John Rice in a successful private practice.

His great interest, however, was in head and neck surgery. He soon relinquished his appointment at the Children's hospital and took on a substantive VMO appointment at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Here, together with the late Jeff Rozenbils, he set out to establish a comprehensive head and neck service for patients with head and neck cancer. In 1976 he travelled with Jeff Rozenbils to major European centres to acquire the skills, knowledge and training to improve the standards of head and neck surgical practice in South Australia. In the face of mounting challenges from competing surgical specialties, Dan Hains and Jeff Rozenbils provided a service from the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at the RAH, that became recognised by the government of South Australia as a "Centre of Excellence".

As head of department, he introduced many changes including setting up a Voice Clinic with stroboscopes in conjunction with Speech pathologists. During this period the Adelaide head and neck fellowship and regular research meetings were introduced.

His contribution to training in head and neck surgery is legend. He inspired and promoted trainees to pursue the specialty and was an early instigator of research when resources and support for this were minimal. His was the vision that has resulted in a comprehensive service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital that now provides resection including complex skull base procedures in conjunction with neurosurgery and microvascular reconstruction by otolaryngologist, head & neck surgeons.

Together with Dr. Andy Whyte, a radiologist he began a multidisciplinary head and neck society. This society embraces all surgical specialties with an interest in head and neck surgery as well as radiologists, radiation and medical oncologists, special needs dentists, speech pathologists, dietitians, and nursing staff. The dinner forum allows all to participate as an equal and has built and strengthened professional relationships and enhanced the care offered and delivered to patients with head and neck cancer. Dan was also the patron of the laryngectomees rehabilitation society and was chair of the Australian Society of Head and Neck Surgery.

He was early to recognise the needs of rural patients and was one of the early surgeons to develop a visiting service to Mount Gambier and Port Pirie, which he provided for 25 years.

For his contribution to enriching the specialty as teacher, trainer and leader and for his contribution to making better the lives of many head & neck cancer patients, Dan Hains is awarded the Society Medal for Distinguished Service to ASOHNS.