

Annual Dinner

Held on Thursday 21st February 2019

Guest Speaker: Dr Paul Jameson, Consultant Anaesthetist, Chester City Hospital



"SURPRISE GUEST SPEAKER"

The President and his wife Juliet, welcomed 72 members and guests to the Council Room where sparkling wine and nibbles were served. Distinguished guests included the Deputy Lord Mayor of Liverpool, the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside, the Head of Undergrad Studies at the School of Medicine, Presidents and Vices of the Birkenhead, Manchester and Chester and North Wales Medical Societies, the Athenaeum, Law, and Medico Legal Societies and Lady Anne Dodd.

We dined in the gallery where our President said grace and splendid food followed, the highlight of which was perfectly cooked roast fillet of beef. Vegetarian and fish alternatives were available. After the loyal toast, coffee and chocolates, we descended to the lecture theatre to hear the President's surprise guest speaker.

What we didn't know was that our guest speaker, Dr Paul Jameson, billed as a surprise, was himself surprised to be speaking, as the original surprise speaker had been surprisingly summoned elsewhere!

Paul is a consultant anaesthetist at the Chester City Hospital and provides services to both children and adults, many of whom are elderly posing clinical challenges. However he told of the challenge of anaesthetising animals from Chester zoo. In conjunction with veterinarians, and nurses, they managed a 29 year old Bornean Orangutan called Vicky.

She had the common Merseyside condition of sinusitis coupled with airsacculitis and a 3 hour operation was planned. Paul had established rapport with Vicky, usually domiciled in Blackpool zoo and demonstrated how in 2014, he had obtained her consent to anaesthesia, through a wire cage, behind a yellow safety line, with a yard brush and an ODA with a gun for protection.

Premedication was standard, a suitable sized endotracheal tube was inserted chosen from a range from a mouse to an elephant, and deep anaesthesia achieved. The sinuses were drained through extremely thick skull bones and the airsac marsupialised.

Vicky made a rapid recovery such that she was climbing in her framed cage with her daughters and male partner Ramon the following day.

The lecture was liberally illustrated and proved above all else that with good team work everything is possible even when a surprise.

Members appreciated Dr Jameson's presentation and departed with happy surprising memories.

PS Those who have looked up Vicky on the internet will be surprised and upset to learn that she died this year in Blackpool zoo aged 34.