

Annual Dinner

Held on Thursday 20th February 2020

Guest Speaker: Mr Andrew J Parker, ENT Consultant



The Annual black tie dinner was held on Thursday February 20th 2020. About 70 members and guests mingled in the Council Room whilst Prosecco and/or fruit juice was served with nibbles.

The gong summoned us to the gallery where dinner was taken courtesy of Debbie and Dennis of Real Food-catering. We ate watercress soup, guinea fowl or salmon followed by Bakewell tart. Water, white and red wine quenched the thirst followed by tea, coffee and petit fours.

The President and his wife Hilary welcomed the chain gang from the City, the Athenaeum club, the legal profession, local Medical societies, the medical school Dean and distinguished honorary members such as Lady Anne Dodd and the former Lord Lieutenant. I had the pleasure of enjoying the company of the president, secretary and treasurer of the medical student's society on whom the future of the Institution and the health of the City will rely.

After proposing the loyal toast the president introduced his guest speaker, Mr Andrew (Andy) Parker who was a fellow Leeds Medical School graduate. We listened to his after-dinner talk in the lecture theatre, not to be subjected to a power point presentation, but to a stage performance of great humour, delivered with style and augmented by George Formby tunes on his luminous green plastic ukulele to which he had added his own verses.

A consultant ENT surgeon, he entertained us with tales of the London FRCS oral examination. A fellow candidate had suggested that a right femur bone he was asked to identify was a humerus. When asked to demonstrate where the elbow was, he replied that he had only attended for a pass mark rather than a distinction. Similarly Mr Parker, on declaring his intention to become an ENT surgeon was given a set of wrist bones. Perplexed, the examiner suggested he put them in his mouth and spat them out in alphabetical order!

Still chuckling the engaged audience joined him in traditional Formby refrains before heading homewards after an entertaining evening.

The President, president elect and past presidents were photographed on the stair case still smiling when we wished Mr Parker well as he had elected to stay overnight at the Adelphi Hotel, for "Old Times Sake".

Chris Evans