



ROYAL AIR FORCE MEDICAL SERVICES 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

WE CARE FOR AIR, WE CARE IN THE AIR



 **ROYAL
AIR FORCE**
Medical Services

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH

Description:

A Winged Staff Entwined
with Two Serpents

Motto:

NEC ASPERA TERRENT
(Nought Shall Affright Us)



A winged staff entwined with two serpents was adopted for Medical Officers of the Royal Air Force from the first formation of RAF uniform. Today when worn on uniform the device is shown with the Royal Crown above. It is based on the Rod of Aesculapius, a staff entwined with a serpent, which is used to represent medical care and takes its name from the Greek god associated with healing and medicine.

Since 1917 when the War Cabinet decided that an Air Force, separate from the Royal Navy and Army, should be created, it was accepted that aviation presented new physiological and medical problems which required special study and which could only be dealt with satisfactorily by a specially trained body of people. The delivery of expert medical support to aviators and care to seriously ill patients in the air is a critical enabler and force multiplier. One hundred years ago 1 October 1918 saw the formation of RAF Medical Services and today the field of aviation medicine permeates through all levels of medical operational capability and remains the primary *raison d'être* of the Royal Air Force Medical Services.

The motto *Nec Aspera Terrent* which is translated as “Nought Shall Affright Us” captures the principal purpose and mission of all RAF Medical Services Personnel.



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HISTORY OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE MEDICAL SERVICES

In July 1917, the Prime Minister and General Smuts formulated the principles on which they considered air defence for the country, with the War Cabinet approving these. They envisaged a separate Air Force, distinct from the Royal Navy and the Army. The Flying Services Medical Advisory Committee drew up plans for an independent Air Force Medical Services; this was necessary as “aviation presented a new physiological and pathological set of problems which required special study which, they felt, could only be dealt with satisfactorily by a specially trained body of men”. 1 October 1918, saw Royal Navy and Army medical officers and dentists employed exclusively on Royal Air Force Stations, transferred to the Royal Air Force, signalling the beginning of the Royal Air Force Medical Services. The head of the department was known as the Director of Medical Services, and it was decided that it would fall under the direction of the Air Member for Personnel. On 13 July 1920, the first permanent or short service commissions were granted for the medical branch, and the branch grew in numbers from then on. The Royal Air Force List showed that in 1919 there was a total of 415 medical officers, and during the peak of the Second World War the number of Royal Air Force Medical Services personnel was at 21,000.

In 1916 a Special Royal Flying Corps medical board was established to pass candidates fit for flying duties, and in 1945 the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine opened with the aim of providing a better understanding of the effects of flying on human physiology. Following this, two further organisations were set up; these were the Royal Air Force School of Aviation Medicine and the Royal Air Force Aviation Medical Training Centre, and these were charged with providing the training for aircrew and continuing work on better understand the effects of flying on human physiology. In 1998, the Centre of Aviation Medicine was created, following the merger of both the School of Aviation Medicine and the Aviation Medical Training

Centre, and in 2000 the Royal Air Force Institute of Health merged in to the Centre of Aviation Medicine. The Royal Air Force Centre of Aviation Medicine was created with the aim of encompassing all aviation medicine disciplines in one place, and its emphasis still remains on the provision of aviation medicine training for medical specialists and aircrew, providing clinical support to aircrew and operational support.

One of the greatest areas of success for the Royal Air Force Medical Services is the evacuation of casualties by air. The first recorded Royal Air Force aeromedical evacuation was in Somaliland in 1919. Between the two World Wars, this service continued but it was not until the Second World War that transportation of casualties by air would increase, and by 1944 the Royal Air Force had moved approximately 300,000 casualties from theatres round the world. The 1970s onwards saw the aeromedical capability be reorganised into a more familiar structure, forming the foundations of where aeromedical evacuation is today. No 1 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron was created in 1975, and it was utilised throughout a number of conflicts, and as years went by we saw the formation No 2 Aeromedical Escort Squadron and No 3 Casualty Evacuation Squadron; these included personnel from across the Royal Air Force Medical Services. 1 April 1996 saw the formation of Tactical Medical Wing, which was to provide the central focus for the Royal Air Force Medical Services preparatory operational activity, and to this day it continues to support all aspects of aeromedical capability based at Royal Air Force Brize Norton.

The Royal Air Force Medical Services has consistently changed and adapted to fit the needs of the wider Royal Air Force and the events worldwide that it has faced, but throughout its history, its mission and vision have remained. That is to provide effective, air minded medical capability and to be a world class medical service in support of air power.



HISTORY OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE DENTAL BRANCH

On 1 April 1918, 690 Dental Officers were serving both at home and abroad, and of these 100 were detached to serve with the newly formed Royal Air Force. In 1930, the Air Ministry Committee proposed that the Royal Air Force have its own dental service. The 1 July 1930 saw the formation of the Royal Air Force Dental Branch. It initially consisted of 27 Dental Officers, 2 civilian dental surgeons, 27 Orderlies (dental nurses) and 5 mechanics (dental technicians). The first Chief Dental Officer was Group Captain Colbran, and in this role, he was responsible for policy, organisation, admin, posting and was the Inspection Officer.

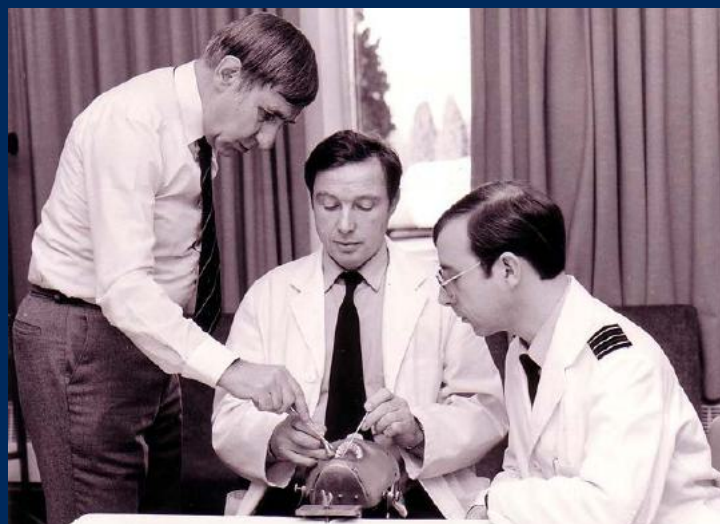
Dental care delivery was originally under the direction of the Royal Air Force Director-General of Medical Services and remained this way, whilst being led by the Royal Air Force Chief Dental Officer, until the formation of the Defence Dental Agency in 1996. The change saw the administration of dental healthcare become tri-Service, with personnel treating patients from all 3 Services for the Defence Medical Services.

The Royal Air Force Dental Branch has played an important part in the development of the dental profession. The Branch led the establishment and widespread employment of Dental Hygienists in the UK. Identifying the importance of good oral health to maintain the dental fitness levels of personnel, the Air

Ministry approved the trade in late 1942, with the School for Dental Hygienists being opened in January 1943 at Glenside, Sidmouth.

Royal Air Force Halton has been closely associated with Royal Air Force dentistry. In 1930, Dental Officers received basic Service training at the Medical Training Establishment and Depot at Royal Air Force Halton, which also housed one of the 3 main dental centres. Training of Dental Orderlies was relocated from Halton to Sidmouth during World War II, but returned in 1945, becoming the Dental Training Establishment in 1951. The Royal Air Force Institute of Dental Health and Training, which saw the consolidation of dental training for nurses, hygienists and technicians at Halton, in addition to housing clinical advisers, was born in 1976.

Forensic dentistry, particularly dental identification, has also featured prominently throughout the Branch's history. From 1968, a Dental Officer would be deployed with the Royal Air Force Pathology Team to fatal aircraft incidents. More recently, Dental Branch personnel were part of the disaster victim identification teams for the Lockerbie bombing, the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami and the Grenfell Tower fire, as well as playing a major role in establishing the tri-Service Dental Identification Team, which supports the identification of military personnel killed in conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.



HISTORY OF THE PRINCESS MARY'S ROYAL AIR FORCE NURSING SERVICE

1 June 1918 saw the creation of the Royal Air Force Nursing Service, and in November of that year, Miss Joanna Cruickshank was appointed as Matron in Chief. In January 1921, the Royal Air Force Nursing Service was established as a permanent branch of the Royal Air Force by Royal Charter, with HRH Princess Mary, daughter of King George V, becoming the Services first Royal Patron; this saw the Service be renamed, becoming the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service. 1922 bought with it the first posting for Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service nurses to Iraq, and just three years later, in 1925, the first aeromedical service was created at Royal Air Force Halton. Following Miss Joanna Cruickshank's retirement in 1930, she became a Dame of the British Empire in 1931.

25 April 1941 saw Defence (Women's Forces) Regulations grant emergency commissions, with Princess Mary's nurses being allowed to wear rank, but were to still be addressed by their professional titles. Over the next three years, there were 1,126 Princess Mary's Sisters working at 31 Royal Air Force Hospitals and 71 Station Sick Quarters. 12 June 1944, saw both Mollie Giles and Fluffy Ogilvie as the first women to enter Normandy with 50 mobile field hospitals. By the June of 1944, 300,000 casualty evacuations had been carried out, making it the largest ever in this history of the Service.

The 1 February 1949 marked the integration of women's service into the Royal Air Force, and the following year

saw King George V approve the appointment of the Princess Royal, Patron of the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, as Air Chief Commandant. During the years of 1951 to 1952, as the Korean War took place, Princess Mary's nurses were used as Flight Nursing Officers for the first time; this time also saw sea trooping and long haul aeromedical evacuations beginning. Royal Air Force Lyneham, in 1959, begun aeromedical training. Sadly, in 1965 HRH Princess Mary passed away, but in 1966 HRH Princess Alexandra was appointed as Royal Patron and Air Chief Commandant Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service. 1980 saw further unification of the nursing service, with male Royal Air Force nurses being integrated into the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, and female officers adopting male rank titles.

12 years after the integration of men into the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, the first male matron, Wing Commander Robert (Bob) Williams at Royal Air Force Hospital Wegberg, was appointed. Three years after his appointment as the first male matron, he became the first Director of Nursing Services and Matron in Chief of Princess Mary's Nursing Service, as a Group Captain.

As with all members of the Royal Air Force Medical Services, the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service continues to support personnel both at home and worldwide in a number of capacities.



DIRECTORS OF MEDICAL SERVICES

Air Commodore M.H.G. Fell CB CMG Later Lieutenant-General Sir Matthew H.G. Fell KCB CMG FRCS (Eng)	26.11.18 - 26.11.21
Air Vice-Marshal Sir David Munro KCB CIE MC ChB FRCS(Edin.)	26.11.21 - 01.03.30
Air Vice-Marshal Sir John McIntyre KBE CB MC MB BCh	01.03.30 - 01.03.35
Air Vice-Marshal Sir Alfred W. Iredell KBE CB MRCS LRCP	01.03.35 - 01.03.38

DIRECTORS-GENERAL OF MEDICAL SERVICES

Air Marshal Sir A. Victor J. Richardson KBE CB MB BCh DPH	01.03.38 - 01.03.41
Air Marshal Sir Harold E. Wittingham KCB KBE LLD FRCP(Lond) FRCP(Edin) FRCS(Edin) DPH DTM&H	01.03.41 - 01.03.46
Air Marshal Sir Andrew Grant KBE CB MB ChB DPH	01.03.46 - 01.03.48
Air Marshal Sir Phillip C. Livingston KBE CB AFC FRCS(Eng) RFCS(Edin) LRCP DPH	01.03.48 - 01.07.51
Air Marshal Sir James MacC. Kilpatrick KBE CB MB BCh DPH	01.07.51 - 01.02.57
Air Marshal Sir Patrick B. Lee Potter KBE MD ChB DPH DTM&H	01.02.57 - 04.09.62
Air Marshal Sir Richard Nelson KCB OBE MD	04.09.62 - 22.01.67
Air Marshal Sir George R. Gunn KBE CB MB ChB FRCP(Edin) DPH	22.01.67 - 18.01.71
Air Marshal Sir Ernest Sidey KBE CB MB ChB FRCP (Edin) DPH	18.01.71 - 18.01.74
Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Dhenin KBE AFC GM MA MD FFCM FRAeS	18.01.74 - 31.03.78
Air Marshal Sir Charles Soutar KBE QHS MB BS LMSSA FFCM DPH DIH	31.03.78 - 15.04.81
Air Marshal Sir David Atkinson KBE QHP MB ChB FFCM MFOM DPH DIH	15.04.81 - 17.08.84
Air Marshal Sir John Donald KBE QHS MB ChB FRCGP FFCM MFOM DTM&H FBIM	17.08.84 - 28.04.86

DIRECTORS-GENERAL OF MEDICAL SERVICES

Air Vice-Marshal F.C. Hurrell

CB OBE QHP MB BS MRCS LRCP FFOM DAvMed FRAeS

28.04.86 - 30.12.87

Air Vice-Marshal N.H. Mills

QHP MB BS FFOM DAvMed

Later Air Marshal Sir Nigel Mills KBE QHP MB BS FRCGP FRCP

FFOM DAvMed RAF Surgeon General

30.12.87 - 30.09.90

Air Vice-Marshal J.M. Brook

CB QHS MB ChB FRCGP MFOM DAvMed RAF

21.10.91 - 17.03.94

Air Vice-Marshal J.A. Baird

QHP MB ChB FFOM DAvMed FRAeS RAF

Later Air Marshal Sir John Baird KBE QHP DL MB ChB FRCP(Edin) FRCS(Edin)

FFOM DAvMed RAF Surgeon General

18.03.94 - 02.02.97

Air Vice-Marshal C.J. Sharples

QHP MSc FFOM MRCS LRCP DAvMed FRAeS RAF

03.02.97 - 03.02.02

Air Vice-Marshal W.J. Pike

QHP MSc MB BS MRCGP MFOM MRCS LRCP DRCOG DAvMed RAF

04.02.02 - 16.09-04

Air Vice-Marshal S.R.C Dougherty

QHP MSc MB BS FFOM DAvMed DObstRCOG FCMI FRAeS RAF

17.09.04 - 31.07.08

Air Vice-Marshal C.P.A Evans

QHP MSc MB BCh DAvMed RAF

Later Air Marshal Evans QHP MSc MB BCh DAvMed

FRAeS RAF Surgeon General

01.08.08 - 06.09.09

Air Vice-Marshal C.B Morris

CB QHS MBBS MMedSci FFOM DRCOG DTM&H DAvMed DMCC RAF

07.09.09 - 16.12.11

Air Vice Marshal A.K. Mozumder

QHP MSc MB BS MRCSEng MRCGP LRCP DRCOG DTM&H DAvMed DMCC RAF

16.12.11 - 06.01.13

HEAD OF ROYAL AIR FORCE MEDICAL SERVICES

Air Commodore A.C. Wilcock

QHP MSc MB ChB MRCGP DRCOG DFFP DAvMed DMgmt FFOM FRCP FRAeS RAF

07.01.13 - 19.12.14

Air Commodore S.C. Kilbey

QHP MA MB ChB FRCGP DRCOG DFFP DOccMed DAvMed CMgr FCMI RAF

19.12.14 - Present



AIR COMMODORE M. H. G. FELL
26 NOV 1918 - 26 NOV 1921

Born on 19 March 1872 in Ulverston, Lancaster, he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps on 28 Jan 1899, but was seconded to the Royal Air Force on 26 November 1918. He assumed the position of Director of Medical Services on 7 January 1919, being awarded the rank of Air Commodore. Throughout World War I he was mentioned in Despatches on a number

of occasions. He was awarded the Russian Order of St Stanislas 2nd Class with awards on 15 May 1917. The same year he was also awarded a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. March 1919 saw him become a CB, and two years later in 1921 he was awarded KBE.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR D. MUNRO
26 NOV 1921 - 01 MAR 1930

Born Having graduated from Edinburgh University in 1901, he joined the Indian Medical Service. He served, between 1914 – 1918, in France, Mesopotamia and Palestine, and appointed a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire for distinguished service at Basra. After transferring to the Royal Air Force, he held the position of Director of Medical Services until he retired; during his time in this role he built up the medical branch and spoke of his ability to pick good men, creating a first-class nursing

service, and of a medical team able to deal with the special problems of flying. Beyond his service to the Royal Air Force, he was Secretary of the Industrial Health Re-search Board, and put efforts in to the research of economic depression, whose findings were published in the “Industrial Health in War”. In 1940, he took on additional responsibilities as Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Supply, and it was in this role that he helped to organise and integrate an industrial medical service for the Royal Ordnance Factory.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR J. MCINTYRE
01 MAR 1930 - 01 MAR 1935

Having joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in December 1915, he was awarded a Military Cross in 1916. On 1 May 1918 he transferred to the Royal Air Force. He served as the Principal Medical Officer in Headquarters India from 9 January 1927 to 19 January 1929. March 1930 saw him become Director of Medical Services, and 1931 saw his promotion to Air Vice-Marshal.

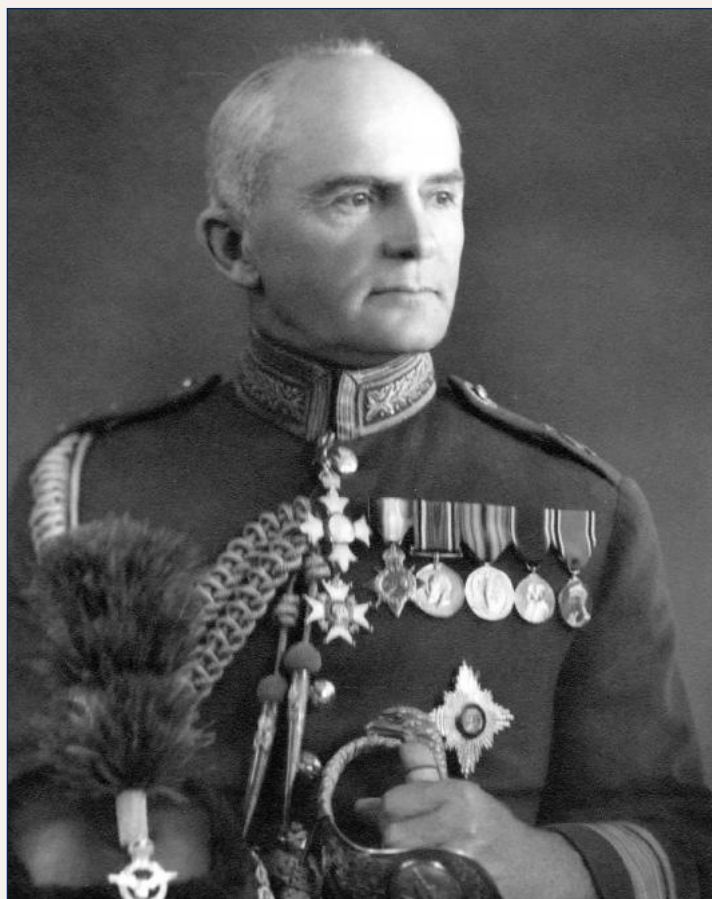
During his time in this position, he was awarded a CB in 1932, and in 1935 a KBE. He retired from service in 1935, however on 8 August 1939 he re-joined the Royal Air Force in the rank of Group Captain and assumed the role of Commanding Officer RAF Neurological Hospital Matlock until his retirement from this role in June 1945, in which he returned to his Air-Vice Marshal rank.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR A. W. IREDELL
01 MAR 1935 - 01 MAR 1938

Born in 1879, he joined the Royal Navy in 1903, but transferred to the Royal Air Force in August of 1919. He was awarded the 1914-1915 Star British War and Victory Medals for Great War Service, and in 1919 had a Press Mention by the Air Ministry. 1927, he saw oversea service in Iraq until 1928, in which he moved to India and carried on serving overseas until 1931.

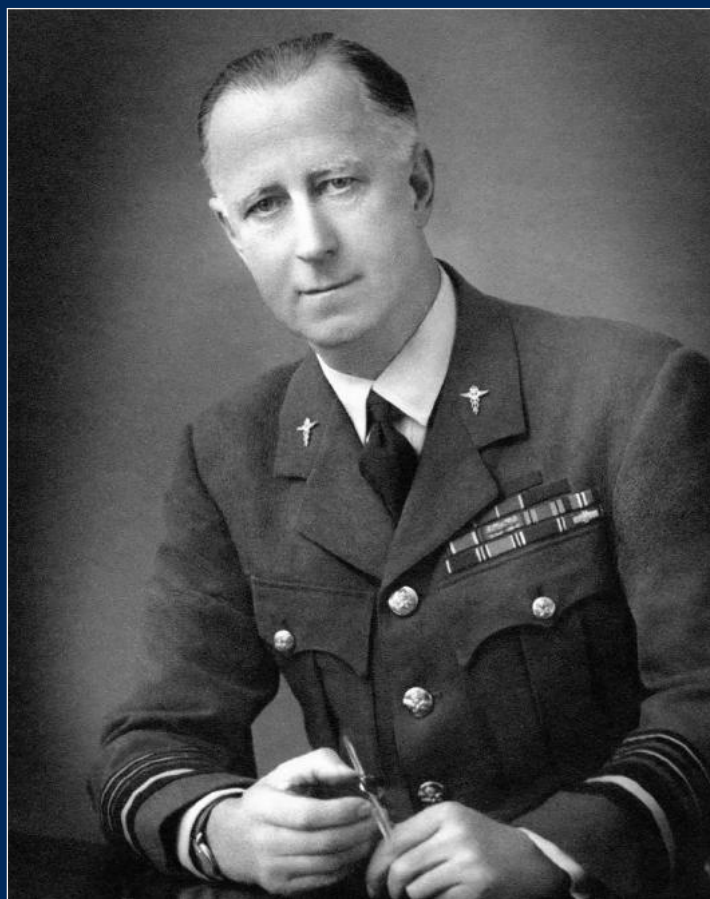
In 1935 he was appointed as Director of Medical Services, and in 1936 was promoted to Air Vice-Marshal. As with Air Vice-Marshal McIntyre, he retired from service after his position as Director of Medical Services, but returned to service as the rank of Group Captain in 1939, and held a Commanding Officer role until he retired once more in 1941, and regained the rank of Air Vice-Marshal.



AIR MARSHAL SIR A. V. J. RICHARDSON
01 MAR 1938 - 01 MAR 1941

Born in 1884, he completed studies in medicine at Trinity College, Dublin, graduating in 1908. In 1919 he transferred from the Royal Navy to the Royal Air Force, being one of the fifty medical officers selected for permanent commissions in the newly created Royal Air Force. After spending five years at the Air Ministry, he held the role of Principal Medical Officer in India, Iraq, Coastal Area, Royal Air Force Halton, Air Defence of Great Britain and Bomber Command. In 1935, he was appointed as Honorary Surgeon to the King, and in 1936 was appointed CB. In 1938, he was both appointed as Director of the Medical Services at the Air Ministry, and knighted. In 1939, he became the first Director General of

Medical Services, a role which saw him help expand the Royal Air Force both abroad and at home, before and during the first two years of war; this was seen in his strategic building of hospitals at Ely and Wroughton. In 1939, he was primarily responsible for setting up the Flying Personnel Research Committee, who were “to advise the Secretary of State for Air on the medical aspects of all re-search affecting safety and efficiency in flying, including problems associated with the scientific selection and training of personnel, and measures designed to maintain their physiological and psychological efficiency”. He established a Physiology Research Lab, became the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine.



AIR MARSHAL SIR H. E. WHITTINGHAM
01 MAR 1941 - 01 MAR 1946

At the outbreak of War, he worked first for the Scottish National Red Cross, before joining the Royal Army Medical Corps, serving in both India and Mesopotamia, with his work earning a Mention in Despatches. He was attached to the Royal Flying Corps from 1917 to 1918, and on 1 October 1918 he transferred to the Royal Air Force. In 1919, he became part of the medical branch of the Royal Air Force. After the war, he was appointed to head a commission of inquiry in to the burden of sand fly fever, and as a result sand fly fever became a rarity in the Royal Air Force. Between the years of 1925 and 1932 he served as Director of Pathology at Royal Air Force Halton, and also acted as a lecturer in biochemistry at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. 1930 saw him awarded a CB. From 1934 to 1939 he acted as Officer Commanding Royal Air Force Central Medical Establishment.

During his time at Royal Air Force Halton, he founded both the Royal Air Force Institute of Pathology and Tropical Medicine, and the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine. 1938 saw him appointed as Honorary Physician to the King. As World War II begun, he held the position of Director of Hygiene at the Air Ministry as well as Chief Executive Officer of the Flying Personnel Research Committee, and was recognised as the authority on the medical problems of aviation as they affected fight and bomber air crews. In 1941 he was appointed KBE, and in the same year took up post as Director-General of Medical Services. During the War, and after, he fashioned the organisation and the means to give the fullest physiological and psychological support to air crews, but he did not want all the men and women, who directly or indirectly, kept the aircraft flying, to be neglected.



AIR MARSHAL SIR A. GRANT
01 MAR 1946 - 01 MAR 1948

After graduating from Edinburgh University in 1913, he commissioned in the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1915. During his time he was wounded in action resulting in the amputation of his left arm. In 1919, he was appointed MBE, and in 1920 he took regular commission into the Royal Air Force. In 1937, he became Deputy Director-General of Royal Air Force Medical Services in the Air Ministry, and he held this post through the difficult period of the rapid expansion of the Royal Air Force Medical Branch.

In 1942 he became Principal Medical Officer at Bomber Command. In the same year, he was appointed both CBE, and Honorary Surgeon to the King. At the end of World War II he served as Principal Medical Officer in South-East Asia Command. In 1945, he was appointed CB, and then KBE in 1946. In 1946, on promotion to Air Marshal, he was appointed as Director-General of Medical Services, and stayed in this post until his retirement in 1948.



AIR MARSHAL SIR P. C. LIVINGSTON
01 MAR 1948 - 01 JUL 1951

Having joined the Royal Air Force in 1919. In 1929, he was posted to Iraq as General Surgeon, and during his time there he began to study the effect of sun glare on flying personnel in Iraq, whilst also gaining his wings as a pilot. In 1934, he was appointed as a consultant in ophthalmology. In 1937, he made a tour of medical establishments in Germany used in the selection of future German air force pilots, and it was because of this visit the then inferior flying equipment of the Royal Air Force was redesigned, and apparatus for evaluating

the psychological needs of pilot and air crew was constructed. In 1938 he was awarded an OBE. He won the Chadwick Prize and Gold Medal for research, and he gave the Montgomery, Moynihan and Chadwick lectures in the years 1942 to 1945. He was awarded an AFC in 1942, a CBE in 1946 and the Medal of Merit (Czechoslovakia). In 1948 he was awarded CB, and in 1950 was awarded KBE. In 1948, he was appointed as Honorary Surgeon to the King and was Commander of the Order of St. John. 1948, was also the year which he became Director-General of Medical Services.



AIR MARSHAL SIR J. MACC. KILPATRICK
01 JUL 1951 - 01 FEB 1957

Having commissioned on 7 January 1920, he served overseas in India, both at Headquarters India and 60(B) Squadron, as a Medical Officer, between 1925 and 1927. In 1931 he served as Medical Officer at Royal Air Force Halton, and in March 1933 was awarded the Arnott Memorial Medal for his devotion to duty whilst the Medical Officer in charge of the Infectious Diseases Hospital Hal-ton during the outbreak of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis in 1931. Home and overseas tours included time in West Africa, Iraq and

Northallerton, in both Principal Medical Officer and Commanding Officer posts. In 1944, he earned a Mention in Despatches. In 1946 he was awarded an OBE. Following promotion to Air Vice-Marshal in 1951, he became Director-General of Medical Services, and then in 1953 whilst still in post, he promoted to Air Marshal. During his time in post, he became an Honorary Physician to both King and Queen, and was awarded both a CB and KBE before retiring and becoming a Commander of the Order of St. John.



AIR MARSHAL SIR P. B. LEE POTTER
01 FEB 1957 - 04 SEPT 1962

Graduating from Sheffield University in 1928, he joined the Royal Air Force. At the outbreak of World War II, he was placed in command of the Royal Air Force Institute of Pathology. He was then transferred to the Middle East and held command of No 21 Mobile Field Hospital, twice being mentioned in Despatches. On his return to the United Kingdom, he was appointed an OBE in 1946. 1947 took him to New Zealand, where he was appointed as Director of Medical Services for the Royal New Zealand Air Force. After 4 years overseas, he returned and was Director of Hygiene and Research in the Royal Air Force. 1953

bought with it both a CBE and appointment as Honorary Surgeon to the Queen. Over the next few years he held Principal Medical Officer posts at Bomber Command and of the Near East Air Force. In 1957, he became Director-General of Medical Services. In this role, he was responsible for the restructuring of the medical branch to give specialist medical officers the continuous clinic career without diversion into administrative posts recommended by the Waverley Committee. In 1958, he was made KBE and in 1960 was made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. John.



AIR MARSHAL SIR R. NELSON
04 SEP 1962 - 22 JAN 1967

Born in Canada, he joined the Royal Air Force Medical Branch in 1935. During World War II he commanded a medical receiving station in the Western Desert. In 1949, he was appointed OBE. A number of senior posts followed, including Senior Medical Officer in the Canal Zone and Commanding Officer of the RAF Hospital at Aden.

1961, he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen. On promotion in 1962, he was made Director General of Medical Services. In the same year, he was made Commander of the Order of the Bath, and in 1963 Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath. In 1964 he was made Commander of the Order of St. John.



AIR MARSHAL SIR G. R. GUNN
22 JAN 1967 - 18 JAN 1971

Graduating from Edinburgh University in 1934, he joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Force in 1939. During World War II he served in Britain, India and Burma, having 5 Mention in Despatches. In 1946 he gained an OBE. From 1955 to 1957 he was the Senior Medical Officer at No. 11 group. 1961 saw him posted as Principal Medical Officer at RAF Germany, also becoming

Director of Hygiene and Research. 1965, he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath, and appointed as Honorary Physician to the Queen. He returned to the United Kingdom and was the Principal Medical Officer at Bomber Command till 1966. In 1967, was made Director General of Medical Services, and held this position till 1971.

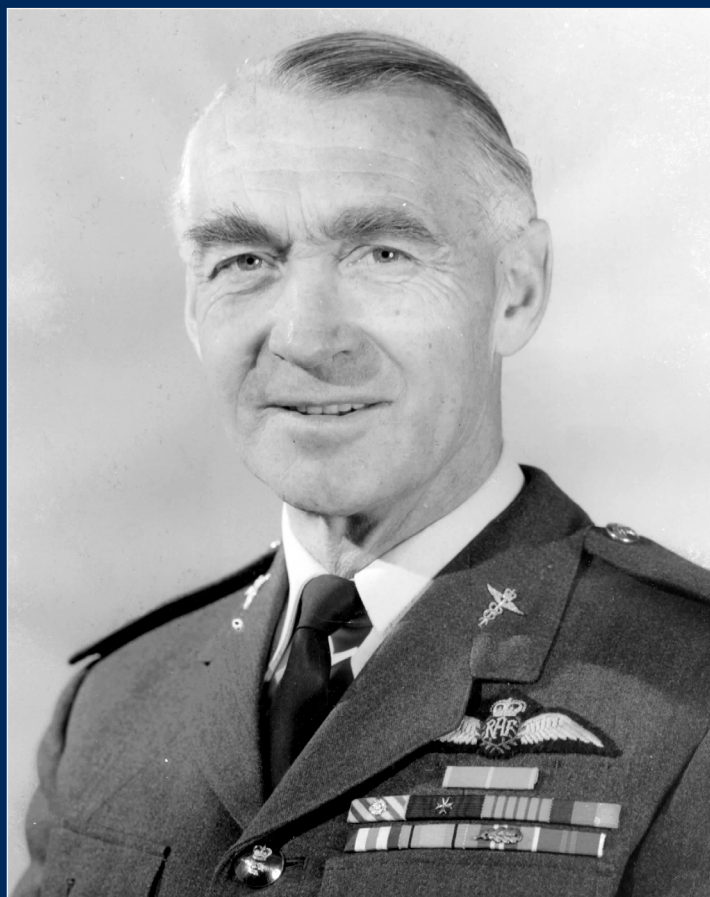


AIR MARSHAL SIR E. SIDEY
18 JAN 1971 - 18 JAN 1974

Graduating from St. Andrews University, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1937. He served in India, with 60, 28 and 5 squadron; he cared for air and ground crew who were maintaining elderly biplanes. On returning home, he became Senior Medical Officer with the Coastal Command maritime group at Pitreavie, in Scotland.

He took interest in the problems of aircrew suffering from stress, after flying for 14 hours protecting shipping and hunting U Boats in the North Atlantic. With return of peace, he was posted to Habbaniya in Iraq, and then to Aden. However, in 1964, his daughter arrived to spend the Christmas holidays, and was tragically killed in a terrorist attack whilst attending a teenagers' dance

at the Royal Air Force base at Khormaksar. He returned to postings at headquarters of Fighter Command's No. 12 Group as Senior Medical Officer at Cardington. He was dispatched to America as an exchange officer and then became Chief of the Medical Advisory Staff at the Fontainebleau headquarters of Allied Air Force Central Europe. 1965, he was appointed CB and the following year, was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Queen. He became Principal Medical Officer at Flying Training, Middle East and Transport Commands and Strike Command. In 1971 he was appointed Director General of Medical Services. During his time, he received a KBE and once retired he began a 10 year career as Head of the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association.



AIR MARSHAL SIR G. DHENIN
18 JAN 1974 - 31 MAR 1978

Graduating from Edinburgh University in 1934, he joined Born the day after the formation of the Royal Air Force, 2 April 1918. He graduated from Guy's Hospital in London and joined the Royal Air Force in 1943. He served on bomber stations in Lincolnshire. Whilst there, in October 1943, a Lancaster bomber had to return from a raid with an engine failure and crashed near the airfield, disintegrating and catching on fire. He administered medical aid as he and the air men tried to release the man, he then crawled under the raised wreck age and released the gunner, being one of only two survivors of the crew. For this, he was awarded the George Medal. A mention in Despatches was to follow, as two days after D Day, he joined a mobile field hospital and was involved in evacuating casualties by air. In 1945, he became a pilot and was one of the few doctors to be employed as a Flying Medical Officer. Once qualified as a senior specialist in radiology, in 1953 he went to Bomber Command, where he was Deputy Principal Medical Officer (Flying). It was this year that they began atomic bomb test firing in Australia, and his post required him to fly the latest Royal Air Force bombers. When the first weapon detonated in October, he was airborne and flew towards the mushroom cloud

to obtain radiation readings, and once assured that the rate would not be suicidal he returned to the centre of the cloud; this was the first time that an aircraft had flown through a mushroom cloud. As reward for this act, in 1954 he was awarded an Air Force Cross in the New Years Honours.

1957, he was called upon to obtain samples from a nuclear explosion; he was known as "master sampler" for Operation GRAPPLE, Britain's H bomb test. For his work on this, in 1959 he was awarded a Bar to his Air Force Cross on the Queen's Birthday Honours. 1970, he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen. 1971, he was Principal Medical Officer at Strike Command, and during this period he was elected a Fellow of the International Academy of Aerospace Medicine. 1974 saw him promoted to Air Marshal, appointed a Commander of the Order of St. John, and become Director General of Medical Services, being the first active pilot to hold the post. 1975, he was appointed KBE and elected a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society. During his time in the Royal Air Force, he was president of the Sub Aqua Association and of the Judo Association.



AIR MARSHAL SIR C. SOUTAR
31 MAR 1978 - 15 APR 1981

Graduating from the London School of Medicine, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1946. After service at No. 11 Group, he spent two years at Kai Tak in Hong Kong. In 1958, he was appointed MBE. 1961, saw a posting to Royal Air Force Nicosia in Cyprus as the Senior Medical Officer. 1964, returned home as the Commanding Officer of the Royal Air Force's School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. 1967, took him overseas once more, arriving in Aden to take up post as Principal Medical Officer at HQ Middle East Command. His most pressing commitment was to provide medical and welfare support during the period leading up to the British withdrawal from the Aden Protectorate. He served in the Ministry of Defence, before taking command of the hospital at Royal Air Force Halton, in which he oversaw a large redevelopment and

building programme to expand the facilities. 1972, he was appointed a Commander of the Order of St. John. July 1973, promoted to Air Commodore, and was appointed as the Commandant of the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine based at Farnborough. Whilst in this role he took particular interest in the effect of "G" force on the human body. During his time in this post, the psychological aspects of space flight were explored. 1974, was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Queen, and 1975 saw him appointed as the Principal Medical Officer at Strike Command.

1978 saw he become Director-General of Medical Services on promotion to Air Marshal. June 1978 saw him receive his KBE. He was a life Vice-President of the Royal Air Force Association.



AIR MARSHAL SIR D. ATKINSON
15 APR 1981 - 17 AUG 1984

After graduating from Edinburgh University, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1949 and took up a number of medical officer appointments in the United Kingdom, Jordan and Egypt. He spent 3 years at the Air Ministry, and a year as a student at Royal Air Force Staff College till 1964. Following this came overseas posts; he was Senior Medical Officer at Royal Air Force Bruggen in Germany from 1964 until 1976, he then worked at HQ Air Support Command, HQ British Forces Gulf Bahrain and the Royal Air Force

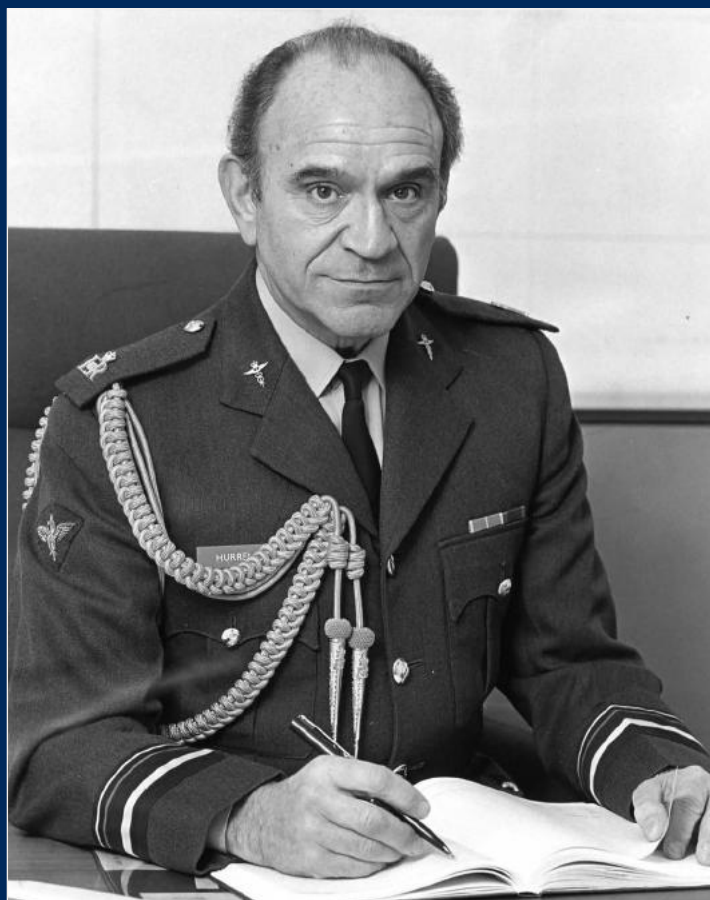
hospital Wegberg in Germany. He was Director of Royal Air Force Health and Research from 1974 until 1978. During this time, 1977, he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen. In 1981, became Director-General Medical Services. In 1984, he became a Freeman of the City of London. He also became a Liveryman for the Society of Apothecaries. After his retirement, he became Director General of the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association.



AIR MARSHAL SIR J. DONALD
17 AUG 1984 - 28 APR 1986

Studied medicine at Aberdeen University, he joined the Royal Air Force. He spent two years with the Regiment. Whilst in his position as medical officer at Royal Air Force Colombo in Ceylon, he was one of the few doctors prepared to visit leper colonies. Upon his return, he undertook studies for a diploma in tropical medicine at Edinburgh University where he won the prestigious Greig Medal for Excellence. Posted to Waddington, where he was the doctor monitoring aircrew who flew a Vulcan on the first non-stop flight from England to Australia. He then served as the Royal Air Force Senior Medical Officer at NATO HQ at Fontainebleau. In 1972, he was sent to Cyprus and commanded the hospital. He held the philosophy that there were to be no empty beds in hospitals since

“there was always someone in need”, and for his service in Cyprus he was appointed OBE. In 1974, whilst in command of the hospital at Ely, this philosophy could be seen once again as he extended the service beyond military personnel, and opened services up to local civilians; this led to him being given the Freedom of the City of Ely. 1978 saw him posted to Royal Air Force Germany as Principal Medical Officer. In 1981 he was promoted to Air-Vice Marshal, and served as Principal Medical Officer at Strike Command. In 1982, he was responsible for aeromedical evacuation of Falklands war casualties. 1983 saw him appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen, the following year saw him become Director-General of Medical Services and knighted. Retiring in 1986.



AIR MARSHAL F. HURRELL
28 APR 1986 - 30 DEC 1987

Graduating from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in 1946. From 1953 to 1965, he served as medical officer on Royal Air Force flying stations. In 1968, he was appointed OBE. In 1970, he received the Chadwick Gold Medal, only given once every 15 years to an Royal Air Force Officer. As a Wing Commander, he was a medical advisor to the Inspector of Air Transport; in this post, he coordinated the Royal Air Force's worldwide aeromedical evacuation service. From 1980 to 1982, he was Officer Commanding Royal Air Force Princess Alexandra Hospital at RAF Wroughton; this included the time of the Falklands War, when the hospital was the primary destination for casualties. 1984 saw promotion to Air-Vice Marshal and appointment as Principal Medical Officer at Strike Command, where he controlled the medical services

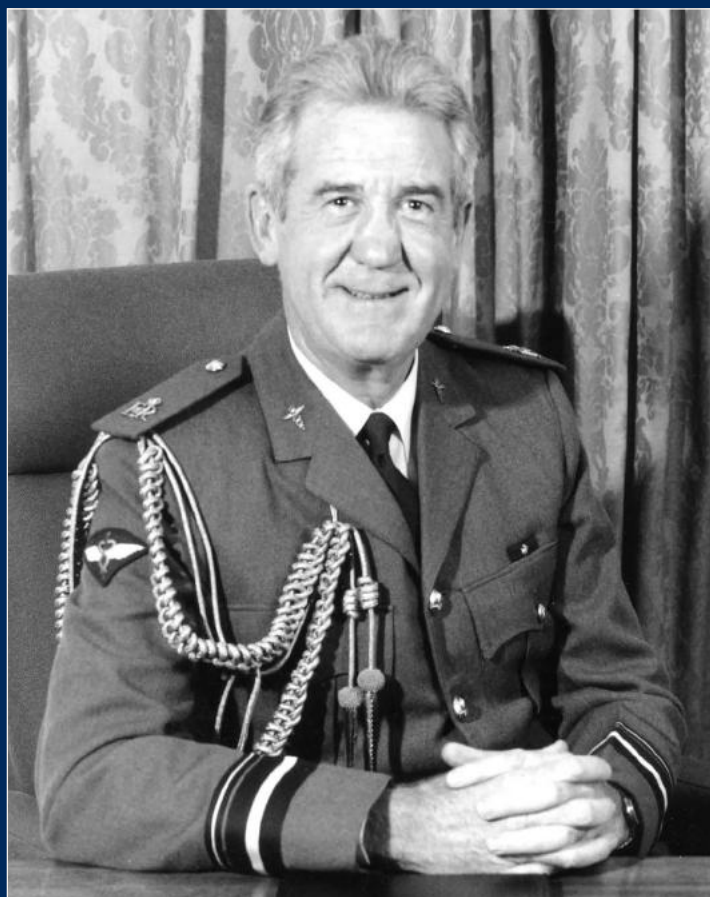
provided for 51 Royal Air Force stations, including 34 airfields, spread across the world. In 1984 he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen, and in 1986 became Director-General of the Medical Services. The same year saw him in the Queen's Birthday Honours, appointed as a Companion of the Order of the Bath, appointed a Commander of the Order of St. John, and elected a Fellow of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine. In 1988, after 35 years of service, he retired from the Royal Air Force, but became the Director of Appeals for the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund. He played a major role in a very successful appeal to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. From 1977, he was vice-president of the Royal International Air Tattoo, where he dedicated much of his time to the organisation's Disabled Flying Scholarship scheme.



AIR MARSHAL SIR N. H. MILLS
30 DEC 1987 - 30 SEP 1990

Graduating from Middlesex Hospital in 1955, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1956. He served as Station Medical Officer at Merryfield and Royal Air Force Coningsby. From 1958 to 1960, he served in Singapore at Royal Air Force Seletar. Following this, he was Station Medical Officer at Royal Air Force Stanmore Park and Chivenor, before once again being posted over-seas at Edwards Air Force Base, California. In 1967, whilst acting as Senior Medical Officer at Binbrook, he attended the first Diploma Course in Aviation Medicine at the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine. He served as Command Flight Medical Officer at Strike Command. 1972 he was awarded the Richard Fox-Linton Prize for work on aircrew workload and was co-author of a study of duty and sleep patterns in aircrew engaged on a long-range air to air refuelling. In 1973, he was amongst the first group of medical

officers to be awarded the newly introduced Flight Medical Officer badge on completion of the Flying Course on Chipmunks. In July 1976, he was posted to Royal Air Force Hospital Wegberg. In 1982, he was posted to Command the Royal Air Force Medical Rehabilitation Unit at Headley Court. He returned to Strike Command as Deputy Principal Medical Officer, until 1984. 1983 also saw him become an Officer (Brother) of the Order of St. John, then in 1988, becoming Commanding of the Order. 1984, saw him posted to Germany as the Principal Medical Officer. 1987, he became the first Royal Air Force medical officer to attend the Royal College of Defence Studies. This was also the year, as Air-Vice Marshal, he became Director-General of Medical Services. In 1988, he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL J. BROOK
21 OCT 1991 - 17 MAR 1994

Having joined the University Air Squadrons in November of 1955, he went on to commission in February 1959. He was posted to Royal Air Force Laarbruch in April 1959 as junior Medical Officer, leaving in 1961. During his time there he was detached to Scharfoldendorf in the same role.

1955 saw him once again travel overseas to Royal Air Force Hospital Muharraq, as a hospital Medical Officer. The 1980's saw him appointed to Officer Commanding posts at the Aviation Medicine Training Centre and Headley Court, as well as an ex-change with the United States Air Force.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR J. BAIRD
18 MAR 1994 - 02 FEB 1997

Born 25 July 1937 in Rhodesia, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1967. Following a posting to Tenagh, as Junior Medical Officer from 1964 to 1967, he was awarded the General Service Medal for his service in the Malaya Peninsula. 1970 saw him go abroad once again, this time to the British Defence Staff with the United States Air Force. The beginning of 1987 saw him take command of Royal Air Force Hospital Ely.

From 1988 to 1991, he held the Principal Medical Officer post at Royal Air Force Germany. On promotion in 1991 to Air Vice-Marshal, he was posted to Strike Command as the Principal Medical Officer, and then in 1994 became Director-General of Medical Services. After holding this position for three years, he promoted to Air Marshal and held the post of Surgeon General. In 1999, he was awarded a KBE.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL C. J. SHARPLES
03 FEB 1997 - 03 FEB 2002

Joining the Royal Air Force as a medical cadet in 1963, he then entered service in 1967. After completing his Diploma in Aviation Medicine, he undertook an exchange post with the United States Air Force, and in 1974, during his time there, he was deployed to Royal Air Force Akrotiri as the United States Air Force Flight Surgeon. After completing training in occupational medicine, he served at Royal Air Force Germany as deputy Principal Medical Officer. From 1987 to 1999 he commanded the Royal Air Force Medical Rehabilitation Unit at Headley Court from, following which he was appointed officer commanding of the Royal Air Force Institute of Community and Occupational Medicine at Royal Air Force Halton.

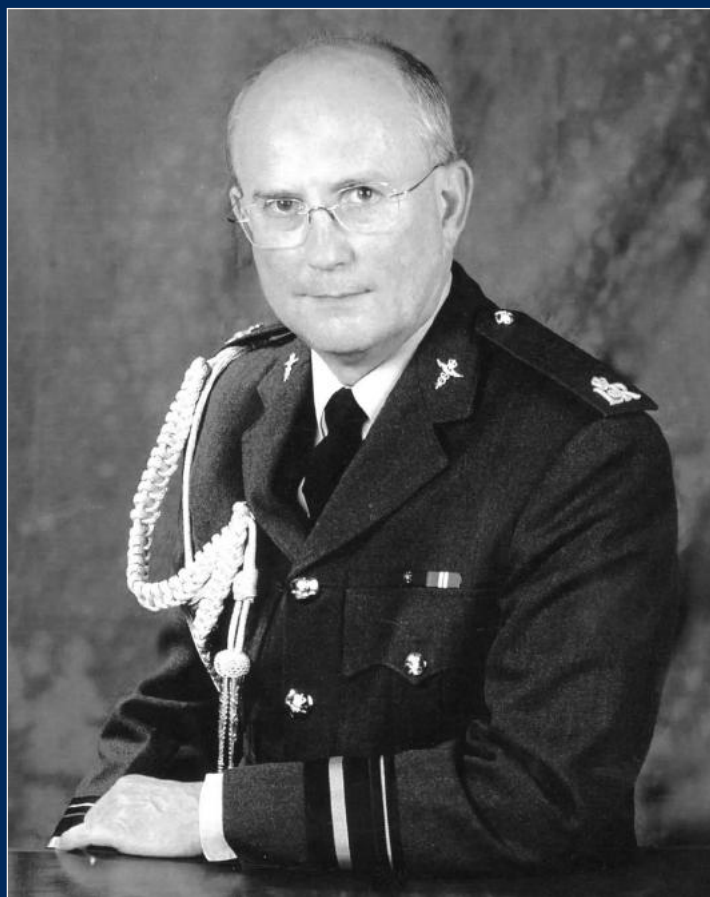
Following time at the Royal College of Defence Studies, he spent a year in post as director of Health Services at HQ Royal Air Force Personnel and Training Command. In 1995, he returned to the Ministry of Defence as Director of Medical Policy and Deputy Surgeon General. The same year saw appointment to Honorary Physician to the Queen. February 1997 saw promotion to Air Vice-Marshal, and from this he took up appointment as Director-General of Medical Services, and held this post until he retired in 2002. He was twice honoured by the Order of St. John; firstly, by his admission as an officer brother in 1997, and secondly promotion to commander in 1999.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL W. PIKE
04 FEB 2002 - 16 SEP 2004

Graduating from Guy's Hospital, University London in 1968 and following a short period of time in general practice, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1970, serving on various flying stations both at home and overseas. Following a tour in Hong Kong, he held the Senior Medical Officer position at Royal Air Force Waddington, and later Royal Air Force Gutersloh. Following his tour in Germany, he moved to a staff appointment at Support Command in 1985, before undertaking the Masters in Occupational Medicine. In 1990, he took in command of the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Hospital, Akrotiri. During his time there, the hospital tripled in size to provide essential medical support for the first Gulf War. In 1992, he became

Director of Medical Personnel for the Royal Air Force before being appointed as the Royal Air Force Member of the Defence Medical Services Implementation Team. In 1996 he became Assistant Director of Medical Policy (Co-ordination) on the staff of the Surgeon General, with special responsibility for negotiating new medical and dental pay and pension arrangements. Later that year he moved to Royal Air Force Innsworth, as Director of Primary Health Services. In 1999, he moved back to London as Director of Personnel and Chief of Staff of the Defence Secondary Care Agency, and in November 2001 became the Chief Executive. He was promoted to Air Vice-Marshal in 2002 on assuming the post of Director General Medical Services.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL S. R. C. DOUGHERTY
17 SEP 2004 - 31 JUL 2008

After joining the Royal Air Force as a medical cadet in 1969, he graduated from the London Hospital Medical College, University of London in 1972, and entered productive service in 1974. 1977 saw he become the Senior Medical Officer at the UK Support Unit at the United States Air Force Base at Ramstein. In 1979, he won the Stewart Memorial Prize and was designated Flight Medical Officer. He spent 3 years training aircrew in the psychological stresses of flight and their protective equipment whilst acting as Chief Instructor at the Aviation Medicine Training Centre at Royal Air Force North Luffenham. In 1982, he was the Senior Medical Officer at the Trinational Tornado Training Establishment at Royal Air Force Cottesmore. During his time there he completed his practical training in Occupational Medicine. In 1983, he was the first non-aircrew to fly in the Tornado. 1990 saw him appointed as Taylor Professor of Occupational Medicine, which he held for 6 years. During the first Gulf War, he was responsible for overseeing the medical preparation of the deploying squadrons, the deployment of nearly 60% of the Royal Air Force Germany medical and nursing personnel and the maintenance of core medical services for the personnel and families who remained

in Germany. As a result of this work, he was appointed an Officer Brother of the Order of St. John. Early 1992, he took command of the Royal Air Force Institute of Health and Medical Training at Royal Air Force Halton. In 1993, he was elected as Fellow of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine. In 1994, he assumed command of the Princess Mary's Hospital Halton. After 8 months, he was posted to HQ Personnel and Training Command as Deputy Director of Medical Policy and Plans. In 1996 took he took command of the Princess Mary's Hospital, Akrotiri. In 1997, he was appointed as Consultant Advisor in Occupational Medicine. In 2002, he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen. As Director Medical Policy, where he was responsible for the formulation of tri-Service medical policy on behalf of the Surgeon General. In 2004, he was promoted to Air-Vice Marshal and took up the role of Director-General of Medical Services. In 2009, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London. In his retirement he became an Honorary Air Commodore of No 4626 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force, , Trustee of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, Trustee of the Headley Court Charity and Liveryman of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries.



AIR MARSHAL C. P. A. EVANS
01 AUG 2008 - 06 SEP 2009

Having joined the Royal Air Force as a medical cadet in 1975, he graduated from the Welsh National School of Medicine in 1978.

He completed a number of postings as a Junior Medical Officer at Royal Air Force Wyton and Royal Air Force Hospitals Ely, Nocton Hall and Halton. In 1983, he was appointed as Senior Medical Officer and undertook tours at Royal Air Force Leeming, Coltishall and Valley. From 1990, he undertook staff appointments as Command Flight Medical Officer at Support Command, Officer Commanding Medical Wing Royal Air Force

Hospital Wegberg, and Medico-Legal Adviser to Director-General of Medical Services' Directorate. He acted as Director Healthcare in Surgeon General's Department from 2003, and then following fully took up this role. In this post he was responsible for the provision of secondary care for Service personnel. In 2008, he was appointed as Director-General of Medical Services. 2009 saw him appointed Commander Joint Medical Command. In 2012, holding the rank of Air Marshal he took up appointment as Surgeon General.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL C. B. MORRIS
07 SEP 2009 - 16 DEC 2011

Having joined the Royal Air Force, he commissioned in October 1972. He served overseas at Royal Air Force Gatow from February 1983 to December 1985 as a Junior Medical Officer, and in 1988 was detached to Royal Air Force Mount Pleasant until 1989. Following his detachment to the Falkland Islands, he was posted to Royal Air Force Laarbruch in 1989 as the Senior Medical Officer and left mid-1991. Time spent on Op WARDEN in 1993 followed, and in 1995 he took

command of the Aviation Medicine Training Centre until 1998. 2003 saw him hold the position of President of Medical Boards for three years, and during this time he was appointed Queen's Honorary Surgeon. In 2007, on promotion to Air Vice-Marshal he became Director-General of Medical Services, and in the same year became an Officer Brother of the Order of St. John. In 2012 he was awarded a CB.



AIR VICE-MARSHAL A. MOZUMDER
16 DEC 2011 - 06 JAN 2013

Having graduated from the University of London in 1979, and qualifying as a general practitioner in 1984, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1987. He served as Senior Medical Officer at Royal Air Force Kinloss, Aldergrove, Gutersloh, Finningley and Brize Norton. He was the Royal Air Force Commander Medical on Op VERITAS. As Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff Medical Operations, he led the planning, deployment and sustainment of the Royal Air Force medical contribution to joint operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and managed aeromedical evacuation service for the joint force. In 2008, he became Assistant Chief of Staff Medical, and in this role was responsible for the delivery of Primary and Inter-mediate Care throughout the Royal Air Force. 2008 also saw him appointed as Queen's Honorary Physician.

July 2009 saw him become Inspector General. 2011 saw him promote to Air Vice-Marshal and appointment as Director-General Medical Services. January 2013 saw him become the first Commander Defence Primary Healthcare. During his time in the Royal Air Force he became Chairman of the Royal Air Force Tennis and Real Tennis club. He is an Officer Brother of the Order of St. John, a Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioner's, and in 2001 was awarded the Chadwick Prize at University College London. In 2012 he became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries, and in the same year was appointed the President of the Faculty of Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, and then in 2017 was appointed Dean.



AIR COMMODORE A. C. WILCOCK
07 JAN 2013 - 19 DEC 2014

Having joined the Royal Air Force in 1982 as a medical cadet, he graduated from University in 1983. 1989 saw him posted as Deputy Senior Medical Officer Royal Air Force St Athan. In 1991 he completed his studies for the Diploma in Aviation Medicine, and won the Stewart Memorial Prize for the best exam performance. 1993 saw him complete a course in Occupational Medicine from Aberdeen University, winning the course prize. 1994 saw him become the Senior Medical Officer at Royal Air Force Leuchars, and was able to undertake basic flying training to become qualified as a Flight Medical Officer. In 1996 he under-took further training in Occupational

Medicine, gaining an MSc in 1997 and Consultant appointment in 1998. Deployed operationally to the first Gulf War, the Former Republic of Yugoslavia, Gabon in Africa and Oman. After attending the Royal College of Defence Studies in 2007, and promotion to Air Commodore, he found himself running Royal Air Force Primary Healthcare as Assistant Chief of Staff before selection to be Director of Medical Policy at Surgeon General's in 2008. 2008 was the same year he was appointed as Queen's Honorary Physician. 2011 saw a return to Air Command in the position of Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff Health, and in 2013 he was appointed as Head of Royal Air Force Medical Services.



AIR COMMODORE S. KILBEY
19 DEC 14 - Present

Having joined the Royal Air Force as a General Practitioner in 1990, he served at Royal Air Force Cranwell, Bruggen, St Athan, the tri-national Tornado Training Establishment, and Marham. He was a general practitioner trainer, is a Chartered Manager and Fellow of the Chartered Managers Institute. He completed his Flight Medical Officer training at Royal Air Force Newton. He has deployed to Croatia, Bosnia, the refugee camp at Brazda Macedonia, Pristina Kosovo, and the Forward Mounting Base Karachi, Pakistan. He held the position of SO1 Medical Operations at Strike Command at the start of Op TELIC. In the Ministry of Defence he wrote the first policy on the medical care of detainees. He returned to Air Command and then

moved to the UK Permanent Joint Headquarters. In 2012, he spent a year in Afghanistan as the NATO lead for healthcare reconstruction and development. In 2013, he was appointed as the first Assistant Head of Special Services, Head-quarters Defence Primary Healthcare, and led the joint delivery of regional mental healthcare, occupational medicine, and rehabilitation services. In December 2014, he was appointed Head of Royal Air Force Medical Services. During 2015 he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen, was awarded the Order of St. John and became a Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners. Alongside this he is an Apothecary and in 2016 was awarded Freedom of the City of London.



Nought Shall Affright Us