



The Australasian College of Tropical Medicine

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Professor Robin Cooke from Pathology Queensland was recently invited to visit the Queen!!

Prof Cooke was an Anatomical Pathologist with PQ from 1968 after working in PNG and London. During his time in PQ, he received the title of Emeritus Director and life membership to several professional associations. Although he retired from clinical duties in 2009, he has continued to work fervently on teaching, research, publishing educational material and electronic media, running conferences both National and International. He has been Editor of newsletters for the Australasian Division of the International Academy of Pathology and for the International body of the IAP for a record 23 years. He is now an external Consultant to the University of Papua New Guinea School of Medicine and Health Science. He holds an Adjunct Professor appointment at University of Queensland and James Cook University and he is an Affiliate with the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute.

Recently, on the basis of his work, Prof Cooke was invited to attend the 100th anniversary of the formation of the OBE Imperial honour in 1917 by King George V. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attended the ceremony in St Pauls Cathedral. Prof Cooke and his two companions from Qld were seated in the front row of the Cathedral, 4 seats away from the Queen and the Duke and had a splendid view of the proceedings. There were 2000 people at this ceremony. On the day before St Pauls they also attended a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace with 8000 guests. He got some very good photos of the Queen and her entourage as they walked from the Palace and then back again. See the attached picture story!

In March Prof Cooke visited the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh to look at their museum with a view to writing about it in the News Bulletin of the IAP. He has put together a fascinating picture story of what he found! It is attached.

A little bit more about Prof Cooke and his publications and interests

Prof Cooke has major book publications and over 100 publications

1. A Colour Atlas of Anatomical Pathology' published by Churchill Livingstone. 1987.

The 3rd. Edition was released for sale in November, 2003

The first and second editions were published in Spanish, Japanese and Greek. A Russian translation of the third edition was released in Jan 2005. A Japanese translation was released in 2006.

This book has been on the reading list for trainee surgeons at the RACS ever since its first publication.

This is now out of print and it went out with a 5 star rating on amazon.com.

2. 'Scientific Medicine in the Twentieth Century

A commemoration of 100 years of the International Association of Medical Museums and the International Academy of Pathology.'

This was commissioned by the International Academy of Pathology to commemorate the centenary of the formation of this body which is the main international organisation of Anatomical Pathologists. A copy was given to each of the 2000 delegates who attended the International Congress in Montreal in 2006.

3. **'Infectious Diseases – text – atlas - cases'** published by McGraw-Hill was released in July 2008.

4. **Clinical and Pathological aspects of disease.** This is suitable for Undergraduate Medical and Science students, Pathology trainees and trainees in other clinical specialties, especially Surgery, Gynaecology and Diagnostic Medical Imaging. It has been compiled in association with Trevor Forster, former Head of Laboratory Science Teaching at QUT. This is awaiting a publisher.

5. **'From Magic to Molecules – An Illustrated History of Disease'**

Jan G. van den Tweel, Jiang Gu, Clive R. Taylor

2016 Peking University Press

Chapter 30 'The First Pathology Classrooms: Anatomy and Pathology Museums of the World'

Robin A. Cooke

6. **Infectious Diseases**

High quality images of almost all the Infectious Diseases that affect humans. This includes clinical manifestations of most of them as well as gross and microscopic images and some microbiological images as well.

The United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology is currently attempting to put this collection on its web page for free access. A list of chapters is

Prof Cooke is a great lover of history and his current Historical Interests include

Diseases in soldiers in WW1.

He has found the remaining specimens that were collected in various combatant countries during WW1, and in collaboration with the Curators of the relevant Museums he is preparing papers on 'the pathology of Gas lungs.' This has relevance to today when gas is again being used in Syria. The reports on the data collected in these times shows that the clinicians and the pathologists established the basis for the specialty of Infectious Diseases that became possible when penicillin became available in 1943.

Diseases seen in the stone age population of PNG at the time of first contact

There are about 5000 tissue specimens in paraffin blocks in Sydney and Perth that were collected before 1962. In collaboration with the recently retired Deputy Director of the National Archives of Australia he is looking for research funds to allow us to examine these specimens to look at the Infectious Diseases, the tumours and other diseases and to record these in digital images that can be made available for education and research. They also want to look at the DNA and genomics of these tissues. This will be applied to normal tissue to help map the origins of the people of the Pacific, and of the tumours to see whether any different genomic variants have developed in these people.