



# Ever Upward: November 2016

## Bird Attains Landmark Achievement

Dr. Ollie Bird, a Medical Officer Instructor at the RAF Centre of Aviation Medicine, recently attained a landmark achievement in hypobaric chamber operations. Dr. Bird, who has served at the Centre of Aviation Medicine at RAF Henlow since its opening 18 years ago, undertook his 1,000th chamber run on 3 October 2016. He has instructed generations of aircrew from all three services in physiology and aviation medicine. This particularly significant and unique achievement will likely never be achieved by anyone else again in the future.

Wing Commander Ian Mollan, OC Aviation Medicine Training Wing, said "Dr. Bird's is an excellent instructor, his expertise and teaching to generations of aircrew have truly made a positive impact to improve flight safety. This remarkable milestone of 1,000 chamber runs comes very shortly after his 500<sup>th</sup> centrifuge spin earlier this year. We are all very grateful to have such a skilled professional providing outstanding support to our aviators for the past two decades."

Whilst on a visit to the RAF Centre of Aviation Medicine, Major General Bricknell, Director of Medical Policy, Operations and Capability, HQ Surgeon General congratulated Dr. Bird and presented him with a Civil Service Award.

Air Commodore Clare Walton QHP, Air Officer Medical Operations and Commandant of RAF CAM, stated "Dr. Bird's wealth of experience and teaching to aircrew is second to none. With his dedication and work well beyond the call of duty, he has undoubtedly reduced the risk to life in our aviators. I would like to congratulate him on this outstanding achievement."

Dr. Bird has been a member of the Aerospace Medical Association since 2003.



Major General Bricknell (left) presents Dr. Bird (right) with the award while Air Commodore Walton (center) looks on.

**Read Current News Online!** The AsMA, Industry, and Member News pages are updated regularly. You can also view newsletters on the Newsletters page.

## News of Members

**Prof. Michael Bagshaw, M.B., FFOM, D.Av.Med.**, was recently awarded the Guthrie Memorial Medal by the Royal Army Medical Corps for his 'exceptional support and advice to Army Aviation for 13 years in his role as Honorary Civilian Consultant Adviser in Aviation Medicine. He is a Past President and Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), a Past President of the Airline Medical Directors Association (AMDA), and received the the George J. Kidera Award from the AMDA, as well as the Louis H.



Bauer Founders Award in 2008, and the Boothby-Edwards Award in 2011, both from AsMA. He currently holds an Airline Transport Pilot license and is a flight instructor and flight examiner. Formerly Director of Aviation Medicine at Kings College London (now Emeritus) and Visiting Professor at Cranfield University, he is an Aeromedical Adviser to Airbus and to NetJets Europe.

## New Members

- Alexander, Hattie; Fort Walton Beach, FL
- Alobaid, Fahad; Kuwait City, Kuwait
- Alston, Tristan; Oak Harbor, WA
- Bahn, Yoochang; Dongdaemungu, South Korea
- Banks III, John; Pittsburgh, PA
- Bhatt, Kunj; Lodi, NJ
- Calladine, Robert; Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Castrovinci, Philip; Allentown, PA
- Cataman, Elena; Chishinau, Moldova
- Cornac, Alain; Blagnac, France
- Douglas, David; Davis, CA
- Eisenbrey, David; Shelby Township, MI
- Fletcher, Eliot; Houston, TX
- Gregory, Jennifer; Virginia Beach, VA
- Hancock, Benjamin; Indianapolis, IN
- Harrison, James; Anacortes, WA
- Hayes, Sally; Arlington, VA
- Kim, Dongsoo; Cheongju, South Korea
- Mader, Thomas; Cooper Landing, AK
- Mayoral Sanz, Pedro; Madrid, Spain
- McCoy, Robert; Granville, OH
- Mitchell, Stuart; Gatwick, West Sussex, United Kingdom

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**LinkedIn:** [https://www.linkedin.com/company/2718542?trk=tyah&trkInfo=tarId:1404740611720,tas:Aerospace Medical,idx:1-1-1](https://www.linkedin.com/company/2718542?trk=tyah&trkInfo=tarId:1404740611720,tas:Aerospace%20Medical,idx:1-1-1)

Send information for publication in this newsletter to: Journal Department, AsMA; [rtrigg@asma.org](mailto:rtrigg@asma.org)

Mullock, Dallas; Kirksville, MO  
Rizwan, Rana; Rawalpindi, Pakistan  
Roglic, Goran; Novi Sad, Serbia  
Webb, Leigh-Ann; Baltimore, MD  
Zhang, Christian; Middletown, NY

### In Memoriam: Alan Benson

Alan J. Benson, B.Sc. (Hons.), M.Sc., M.B. Ch.B., FRAeS, has passed away. He had been an AsMA member since



1968 and a Fellow since 1977. Dr. Benson received his medical qualification from the University of Manchester, England, United Kingdom, and joined the staff of the Royal Air Force (RAF) Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough, United Kingdom, in 1956. He headed the Vestibular Physiology Section (1962-1980), the Behavioral Sciences Division (1975-1990), and the Special

Senses Division from 1990 until his retirement in 1991. But he continued to work at the Institute as a part-time consultant with teaching, research, and managerial commitments.

Dr. Benson was an internationally recognized authority on spatial disorientation (SD) in flight. During his career, which spanned over 40 years, he investigated such topics as basic and applied research on vestibular mechanisms of etiologic significance in SD; the clinical study of aviators with SD; the analysis of military and civil aircraft accidents in which SD was implicated; improving the SD training of aviators by the design of training devices (rotators) and the preparation of a training video; and the writing of definitive texts on SD for medical and non-medical personnel. Dr. Benson was instrumental in improving the training that aviators receive about spatial disorientation in the UK and other NATO countries. His opinion and advice were sought by military and civil organizations in both the UK and abroad on accidents in which spatial disorientation was implicated. He also lectured extensively on the topic throughout the world.

In addition to his work on SD, in collaboration with colleagues from North America and Europe, Dr. Benson was involved in studies of vestibular adaptation to weightlessness that were conducted on the SLL, D1, and the IMLI Spacelab missions. He also carried out work for the European Space Agency (ESA) on the design of the Space Sled and facility requirements for physiological and neurophysiological research in the ESA Attached Pressurized Module for the Space Station.

During his long and distinguished career, Dr. Benson received many honors, including the Longacre (1975), Liljencrantz (1992), and Gillingham (1999) Awards from AsMA. In 1988 he received both the Yearsley Medal of the Royal Society of Medicine and the W. S. Smith Prize of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

For a full biography please refer to *Aviat Space Environ Med.* 1999; 70(7):723.

### In Memoriam: Jane Risdall

The AsMA community is deeply saddened by the loss of Jane Risdall, M.B.B.S.(Cantab.), M.A.(Lond.), FFARCSI, FRAeS, RN, wife of our President, David Gradwell. Jane and David met at our Houston meeting in 2000. Jane joined AsMA that year and became a Fellow in 2009. She was on our Editorial Board and Scientific Program Committee, even reviewing abstracts remotely when she could not travel to the meetings.



Jane was a consultant anesthetist with a sub-specialist interest in neuro-anesthesia and critical care.

She held an honorary visiting research fellowship at the University of Cambridge and her principal area of interest, for her M.D., was in the effects of blast exposure on the brain. Jane was also the military representative on the NIAA/Anaesthetic Research Society committee. Her other areas of interest included diving and hyperbaric medicine and Critical Care Air Support Team patient and casualty aeromedical transfers (both strategic and maritime).

Surgeon Commander Risdall attended the University of Cambridge between 1978 and 1981, and carried out her clinical training at the University Newcastle. After qualifying and working within the NHS in Scotland she served in the Royal Army Medical Corps Territorial Army throughout the first Gulf War. She was subsequently commissioned into the Royal Navy in 1992. Her maritime deployments included serving as Principle Medical Officer aboard the now-retired aircraft carrier HMS *Invincible* and as consultant anesthetist on the carrier HMS *Illustrious*.

In January of 2011, Surgeon Commander Risdall was part of an 18-strong team providing medical support on board Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel *Fort Victoria* equipped for its role with an intensive care unit, operating theatre, emergency department, laboratory, and radiology unit. The 36,580-tonne multi-role support ship was deployed in the Gulf of Aden and the Somali Basin, where she was working to help deter and disrupt pirate attacks on merchant vessels.

Dr. Risdall served for a year in the United States at the University of Texas and the Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center, Houston, working in hyperbaric medicine, specifically in the use of increased pressure of oxygen in a recompression chamber as a medical therapy for conditions as diverse as diving accidents, carbon monoxide poisoning, and non-healing wounds, as well as anesthesia and intensive care. During her time in Houston, she had the opportunity to undertake research for NASA, in support of the International Space Station program.

Jane's love of the sea extended to sailing and rowing. She served as the coxswain for crews of four and eight in a rowing club in Cambridge and for the Royal Navy. In February 2013 she took part in a charity row from Cambridge to Ely, organized by the Cantabrigian Rowing Club to benefit the Cambridge Pancreatic Cancer Centre.

Jane was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2011, but despite that returned to work full time after her surgery and

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when chemotherapy permitted. She deployed to sea on major military exercises and attended AsMA meetings, including San Diego in 2014 and the Scientific Program Committee in Houston in 2015. Jane had multiple publications, including a chapter in Ernsting's "Aviation & Space Medicine" this year. She is co-author on an abstract submitted for the Denver meeting. At that meeting her role in respect of pinning on her husband's Past President pin will be performed by her stepsons, Robert and Christopher.

### Scholarships to 2017 ICASM Offered

The 2017 International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM), will be held in Rome, Italy, in the Fall of 2017. The Italian Association of Aerospace Medicine and the National Association of Assistants and Controllers of Air Navigation have announced the VII edition of the scientific prize "I Guidoniani." The scholarship prize will be 2,000 Euro for the best original paper in the field of medicine, psychology, or engineering, regarding man in atmospheric/spatial flight, and 2,000 Euro for the best original paper in the field of medicine, psychology, or engineering concerning human factors in air traffic control. Scientists below the age of 35 with a degree in medicine, biology, psychology, or engineering are eligible.

Completed and signed applications should be submitted online to: [segreteria@aimas.it](mailto:segreteria@aimas.it) or faxed to: 06.99331577. The deadline for applications is the 15th of June 2017. The full application form can be downloaded from: [http://www.aimas.it/docs/premio\\_guidoniani\\_2017.pdf](http://www.aimas.it/docs/premio_guidoniani_2017.pdf).



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## NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS

### ALPA Announces ALPA-PAC Awards

Capt. Tim Canoll announced several ALPA-PAC honors during the plenary session of the ALPA Board of Directors meeting in mid-October, including the winner of the J. J. O'Donnell trophy, which recognizes the Master Executive Council (MEC) that has most prioritized the Political Action Committee (PAC) over the past year. The 2016 J. J. O'Donnell Trophy for Excellence in Political Action went to the pilots of United Airlines. Also recognized were the six MECs in the running this year; the top three, Hawaiian, Sun Country, and United, were given applause. ALPA-PAC also recognized the Key Men Society, the highest honor awarded by the PAC. There were 24 Local Executive Councils (LECs) with the highest percent of PAC participation among their membership honored.

—Please visit <https://www.alpa.org/news-and-events/newsroom/2016-10-18-BOD-2016-PAC-awards> for more on this.

### Baxter Honors Students with Young Investigator Awards

As part of continued efforts to celebrate and promote innovative research that aligns with its mission to save and sustain lives, Baxter honored 17 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with the 2016 Young Investigator Awards. The Young Investigator Awards seek to stimulate and reward research

applicable to the development of therapies and medical products that help resolve critical medical needs. The Young Investigator Award, now in its eighth year, has recognized more than 60 young scientists and engineers, some of whom have gone on to participate in Baxter's Technical Development Program—a 2-year training program focused on developing high-potential, entry-level technical professionals. Young Investigator Award applicants were chosen in a variety of product categories, including renal, surgical care, and fluid systems, after demonstrating their practical understanding of the therapeutic areas. To select the award winners, Baxter evaluates candidates based on several criteria measures, including the quality of the research itself, whether the candidates were primarily responsible for their own research, and if the research aligns with acute and critical care medical technology. Winning projects of this year's award program include perioperative monitoring of blood coagulation to bet-

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ter understand the causes of hemorrhage; finding resolutions for problems associated with islet transplantation for Type 1 diabetes; and the development of a fluorinated nanoparticle for longitudinal monitoring of cancer, among others.

—Please see <http://www.baxter.com/news-media/newsroom/press-releases/2016/09-29-16-young-investigators-award.page> to read more about this.

### **NIOSH Releases List of Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently released its 2016 list of hazardous drugs in healthcare settings, updating the list to include 34 added drugs. Healthcare workers who prepare or give hazardous drugs to patients, such as those used for cancer therapy, as well as support staff, may face individual health risks when exposed to these drugs. NIOSH estimates 8 million U.S. healthcare workers are potentially exposed to hazardous drugs in the workplace. The new document is the latest version of the hazardous drug list first published by NIOSH in 2004 as an appendix to the document “NIOSH Alert: Preventing Occupational Exposure to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings.” This list categorizes drugs into the following groups: 1) antineoplastic drugs; 2) non-antineoplastic hazardous drugs; and 3) drugs with reproductive effects. The latest version of the list includes 34 drugs not found on previous lists, five of which include the manufacturer’s safe-handling warnings. General guidance on engineering controls and personal protective equipment for various activities that may be encountered in

healthcare settings has also been updated. NIOSH made previous updates to the list in 2014, 2012, and 2010.

—Please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-10-06-16.html> for more on this.

### **Mayo Clinic & MIT Receive Grant for Physical Sciences-Oncology Center**

Mayo Clinic and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have been awarded a 5-year grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to support a Physical Sciences-Oncology Center (PS-OC). Researchers hope to learn more about the physical parameters that limit drug delivery into brain tumors and use this information to build models that will help physicians better predict how the body will distribute a particular drug to brain tumors and help them select the best drug to treat each patient based on their unique tumor. Mayo Clinic and MIT are among 10 institutions selected to participate in the NCI Physical Sciences-Oncology Network. The network supports innovative ideas that blend perspectives and approaches from the physical sciences, engineering, and cancer research, with the goal of improving the understanding of cancer biology and oncology.

—Please see <http://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/mayo-clinic-and-massachusetts-institute-of-technology-receive-grant-to-support-physical-sciences-oncology-center/> to read more about this.

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### **Want more info on the annual meeting?**

Visit [www.asma.org/scientific-meetings/asma-annual-scientific-meeting](http://www.asma.org/scientific-meetings/asma-annual-scientific-meeting) - links are in the left-hand column.

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### Monash University Researcher Wins Clinical Innovation Award

Dr. Dana Wong, a neuropsychologist at the Monash Institute of Cognitive and Clinical Neurosciences (MICCN), has been awarded the 2016 ASSBI Early Career Clinical Innovation Award for her submission, *“The Monash Memory Skills Group: integrating clinical training and research into clinical service delivery for people with acquired brain injury.”* The Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment (ASSBI) is a multidisciplinary society dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with brain impairment and their families. Its Early Career Clinical Innovation Award, presented for the first time this year, recognized The Monash Memory Skills Group is led by Dr. Wong and offers rehabilitation for patients with acquired brain injury (ABI), such as stroke and traumatic brain injury, who have memory problems. Through this initiative, clinical training and research has been incorporated into a memory group for the first time in Australia. Since its 2014 launch at the Monash Psychology Centre in Notting Hill, the Memory Skills Group has helped to improve everyday memory functioning for patients with ABI, as well as equipping MICCN’s clinical neuropsychology and clinical psychology students with the skills to deliver this type of rehabilitation in their future practice.

—Please visit <http://www.monash.edu/medicine/news/latest/articles/miccn-researcher-wins-2016-assbi-clinical-innovation-award> for more on this.

### OxyHeal Provides Hyperbaric Chamber Systems to Allegiance Health

OxyHeal® Medical Systems, Inc., and OxyHeal International®, Inc., delivered two state-of-the-art hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) chamber systems to the Henry Ford Allegiance Health System. One chamber model is a large 12-patient rectangular hyperbaric chamber, and the second model is a 3-patient vertical cylindrical chamber. These modern hyperbaric chambers will significantly enhance wound healing services and assist with other medical conditions where HBOT is the primary and adjunctive standard of care.

—Please see <http://www.oxyheal-international.com/hyperbaric-news/102-allegiance-health-receives-new-rectangular-and-cylindrical-hyperbaric-chamber-systems> to read more about this.

#### Upcoming Calls for Papers

**May 19-24, 2017;** ATS International Conference; Washington, DC. Call for Abstracts & Case Reports: **deadline is November 2, 2016, at 5 PM ET.** For more, please visit [http://conference.thoracic.org/program/call\\_for\\_abstracts/index.php](http://conference.thoracic.org/program/call_for_abstracts/index.php).

#### Future AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings

April 29-May 4, 2017: Sheraton Denver Downtown; Denver, CO  
May 6-10, 2018: Hilton Anatole Hotel; Dallas, TX  
May 5-9, 2019: Rio All Suites Hotel; Las Vegas, NV

### Corporate News Bites

**Air Canada:** Air Canada announced it has opened a Maple Leaf Lounge at Newark Liberty International Airport. The new lounge, Air Canada’s third in the U.S., is located beyond security near Air Canada gates, giving eligible Air Canada and Star Alliance customers a calm atmosphere to relax or work prior to their flight. *To read more, please visit <http://aircanada.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=1068>.*

**David Clark:** David Clark has introduced the new DC ONE-XH to its leading line of helicopter headsets. The DC ONE-XH has all of the same advanced technology and comfort features of the recently introduced DC ONE-X Series headsets, but features a 5-ft extended coil cord with U-174/U plug and advanced M-55 electret microphone for helicopters. *To see more about this product please see <http://www.davidclarkcompany.com/news.php?newsid=88>.*

**United:** United Airlines announced a new team, integrating all customer-facing functions in the company, to focus on improving the travel experience. Kate Gebo will lead this new organization as senior vice president of Customer Service Delivery. In this newly created position, Gebo will oversee all of United’s customer-facing teams from booking to landing. *For more on this, please see <http://newsroom.united.com/2016-10-19-United-Lifts-Travel-Experience-With-New-Integrated-Customer-Service-Team>.*

### Upcoming FAA AME Seminars

Dates	Location	Seminar Type
Dec. 2-4, 2016	Tucson, AZ	Refresher
Feb. 10-12, 2017	St. Petersburg, FL	Refresher
March 20-24, 2017	Oklahoma City, OK	Basic

For more, visit: [http://www.faa.gov/other\\_visit/aviation\\_industry/designees\\_delegations/designee\\_types/ame/seminar\\_schedule/](http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/designees_delegations/designee_types/ame/seminar_schedule/).

### MEETINGS CALENDAR

**Nov. 6-10, 2016;** 64th International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM 2016); New Delhi, India. For more, visit <http://www.icasm2016.co.in/>.

**Nov. 15-17, 2016;** SPACECOM - Space Commerce Conference and Exposition; Houston, TX. For more information, please visit <http://www.spacecomexpo.com>.

**March 28-30, 2017;** 3rd Annual Singapore Aviation Safety Seminar; Singapore Aviation Academy, Singapore. Jointly organized by the Flight Safety Foundation and the Singapore Aviation Academy. For more information, please visit <http://flightsafety.org/aviation-safety-seminars/singapore-aviation-safety-seminar-2017>.

**April 4-6, 2017;** Arvind Chaturvedi Colloquium on Postmortem Forensic Toxicology in Aviation; Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, CAMI, FAA, Oklahoma City, OK. Registration is due by December 16, 2016. For info, please see the [Colloquium announcement](#).