

Citation on behalf of

**DR ROBERT MILES BINGHAM**

for Honorary Membership of the

Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.

Given By Dr Michael Sury, APAGBI ASM Liverpool 2018

Bob qualified from Charing Cross Hospital Medical School in 1976, rapidly progressing to FRCA 4 years later. By 1981 he was a paediatric anaesthesia fellow at GOSH and then a senior registrar at St Bartholomew's Hospital until his consultant appointment at GOSH in 1985. He very quickly made his mark in resuscitation. Using the experience from being the Travelling Fellow of the Intensive Care Society (1985) he realized that all paediatric hospitals needed resuscitation teams and they needed to be trained. He directed the first Paediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) course in the UK in 1992 and, together with Dominique Biarent, developed the European Paediatric Life Support (EPLS) course. At GOSH he created a resuscitation team, trained, and supervised by specialist nurses who were to become, what we now have in every hospital, Resuscitation Officers. It is a current standard, that most doctors and nurses who work in paediatric intensive care, retrieval and emergency medicine will have passed one of his courses.

He became an international leader and motivator for paediatric resuscitation contributing to European guidelines that he helped to update right up to the present time (Vice-Chair of Paediatric Working Group of the European Resuscitation Council, 2006 – 2017). The net result of such work is that the survival rate of children from in-hospital cardiac arrest has increased from 9.4% in 1987 to over 40% currently. Moreover the profession aspires, now, that no child should have a cardiac arrest outside an intensive care setting because the standard of care should be high enough and the early warning systems so robust that vulnerable children are moved to intensive care before they need resuscitation. Bob has promoted the development of technology such that, for example, the effectiveness of cardiac massage can be continuously monitored to maximize survival. He was Chairman of UK Resuscitation Council (2000 – 2003) and later made an Honorary Life Member. He was a Medical Advisor to the London Ambulance Service for 14 years (1997- 2011).

He would not call himself an academic yet he has over 60 peer reviewed publications and numerous reviews and chapters to show a very wide range of contributions. He became one of the few extremely experienced cardiac anaesthetists, always cool and safe with the most delicate of sick infants. This characteristic has been passed on, most definitely, not only to his trainees and colleagues but also is highly likely to have influenced surgeons. Every Monday he serviced the craniofacial list, which was notorious for blood loss. Bob never lost control but he noticed that an Hb of <50g/L was associated with ST depression: this was one of his “gems”. He has been unstintingly committed to our specialty. For 10 years (from 1996 – 2006) he was Primary FRCA examiner and for this association he was Treasurer and then our President (2013-2015).

A family man too! With Pauline, he has three adult children (Iain, Alice, and Jack and, at the time of writing, one granddaughter Margot). Bob retired only two months ago and he plans a future of sailing, skiing, hill walking and some musical activities, together with his partner Lynn. I propose Bob as an Honorary Member of this Association and wish him a very long and happy retirement.