

Retinal Masterclass Speakers

10-11 December 2009 Imperial College London Diabetes Center, Abu Dhabi

Professor Alan C Bird

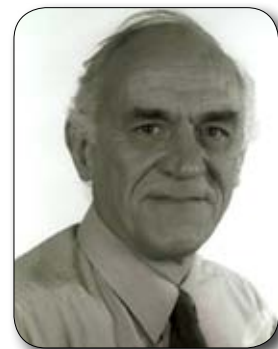
Honorary Consultant, Moorfields Eye Hospital
Emeritus Professor, London University

After undergraduate studies at Guys Hospital Medical School, Prof. Alan Bird undertook a residency in Ophthalmology at Moorfields Eye Hospital, before moving to the US. Returning to London, he held posts at the Institute of Ophthalmology and became a Consultant at Moorfields Eye Hospital, changing his main interest to retina. He established the Medical Retinal Service at Moorfields, which now holds 34 clinics each week, and has 12 Consultants.

He led a multidisciplinary research team investigating monogenic retinal disorders and age-related macular disease, using a variety of investigative techniques. Research was aided by the development of the Institute of Ophthalmology, which became a School of University College, London.

In addition to his work in London he has spent time in Africa undertaking research into river blindness and, in Jamaica, recording the retinal changes in sickle cell disease over a 20 year period.

Prof. Bird has received a number of awards in recognition of his work and on October 1st 2005, he retired from full time clinical practice to concentrate on research and teaching.



Dr Bill Aylward

Medical Director and Senior Vitreoretinal Surgeon, Moorfields Eye Hospital, President of Euretina

Dr Bill Aylward is a senior vitreoretinal surgeon at Moorfields, and has extensive experience of teaching and training. He has published over 80 peer-reviewed papers, and 8 book chapters. He is the author of the highly regarded video atlas of vitreoretinal surgery.

He studied at Cambridge University Medical School, and trained in ophthalmology at the Western Eye Hospital in London, before writing his MD thesis in Sydney, Australia. He obtained further training at Moorfields, trained as a fellow with Peter Leaver in vitreoretinal surgery, and then with Don Gass in Medical Retina at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami.

He is Medical Director of Moorfields Eye Hospital, and the President of the European Society of Retinal Specialists (Euretina).

Dr Alistair Laidlaw

Consultant Vitreoretinal Surgeon at St Thomas' Hospital, London and The Maidstone Hospital, Maidstone, UK
Lead Clinician for Ophthalmology, St Thomas' Hospital

Dr Laidlaw has wide ranging experience in the management of vitreoretinal and retinal disease. He works on the National Health Service in the United Kingdom between St Thomas' Hospital in London and the Maidstone Hospital. St Thomas' Hospital is the senior UK teaching hospital and the site of both the first intraocular lens implant and first photorefractive keratectomy procedure.

His research interests include assessment of outcome of retinal procedures, development of new surgical techniques and development of computerised visual acuity measurement devices.

Dr Laidlaw was educated in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He trained in medical neurology prior to entering a career in ophthalmology. His specialty training was in Bristol and latterly at Moorfields before taking up a Consultant post at St Thomas' in 1998.

Alistair is a popular speaker, having been asked to give over thirty guest lectures over the last four years.



Dr Chris Canning

Consultant Vitreoretinal Surgeon and Medical Director, Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai

Dr Canning has a wide range of experience in the management of retinal, vitreoretinal and medical retinal cases and Moorfields in Dubai has the latest generation equipment to support these patients. His research interests include a range of surgical innovations and modelling techniques applied to clinical vitreoretinal practice.

Dr Canning was educated in Johannesburg, South Africa, and started a career in cardiology before switching to ophthalmology. He went on to specialise at Oxford and Moorfields in London before taking up a consultant vitreoretinal post in Southampton. He developed the vitreoretinal unit into a major provider of care on the south coast of England before moving back to Moorfields in London.

He has an ongoing interest in medical informatics and has been involved in many of the initiatives in electronic health records.