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In Tribute to Arthur Hollman, MD, FRCP, FLS

John Gordon Harold, MD, MACC, MACP, FRCPI, FCCP, FAHA Immediate Past President American College of Cardiology

Dr Arthur Hollman, the archivist and historian for the British Cardiovascular Society (BCS) and honorary member of the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology (CAACC) has passed away in August 2014.

Born in 1923, Dr. Hollman graduated from University College Hospital Medical School in 1946 and studied under Sir Thomas Lewis, Dr. Paul Wood and Dr. John Goodwin in London. Dr. Hollman's interests in the history of medicine and cardiology led to his biography of Sir Thomas Lewis which brought him the Society of Authors prize in 1998 for the best book on medical history. Dr. Hollman was a consultant physician with a long interest in the therapeutic use of medicinal plants. He represented the Royal College of Physicians of London on the Advisory Committee of the Chelsea Physic Garden for 26 years. He was a livery member of the Society of Apothecaries, to whom he gave the Hans Sloane Lecture entitled "Plants in Medicine." His associated interest in plants and medicine brought him the Fellowship of the Linnean Society (FLS) in 1985.

Dr. Hollman highlighted the historical relationship between the American College of Cardiology and the British Cardiovascular Society. His article with Dr. Paul Kligfield in the American Journal of Cardiology entitled "[The Sir James Mackenzie Cardiological Society and the American College of Cardiology](#)" described the earliest evolution of antecedent societies to the present ACC and provides important insight into the early professional organization of clinical cardiology in the United States. The New York Cardiological Society organized in 1928 evolved from the Sir James Mackenzie Cardiological Society which was founded in 1926 and named in honor of the Scottish cardiologist Sir James Mackenzie. Mackenzie is acknowledged as the father of British Cardiology and inspired the creation of the Cardiac Club in 1922 which was the start of organized British cardiology and the forerunner of the British Cardiovascular Society. The ACC grew out of the New York Cardiological Society and was incorporated in 1949.

Dr. Hollman became the curator of the Arthur Hollman historical collection which was donated to the British Cardiovascular Society and is contained in the BCS headquarters town house dating from 1790, at 9 Fitzroy Square in London:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNpVgh9vJkI>

In 1975, Dr. Hollman founded "the Committee for the Protection of the mmHg" after the European Union (EEC) directed that blood pressure should be measured in kilopascals, and not in millimeters of mercury. He persuaded other European countries, including the Soviet Union, to get the EEC to reverse its decision and persuaded the World Health Organization to state in 1980 that the "mmHg would be



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retained for the time being.” Dr. Hollman said that he would like to be remembered as the man who saved the “millimeter of mercury.”

Dr. Hollman played a pivotal role in the evolution of the Twinning relationship which I developed between the British Cardiovascular Society and the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. In recognition of his efforts, Dr. Hollman was made an honorary member of the California ACC Chapter in 2013 (see plaque). The signing ceremony to commemorate the Twinning of the British Cardiovascular Society with the California Chapter of the American College Cardiology took place in 2009. This marked the first twinning of an ACC chapter with an international cardiovascular Society. Twinning programs allow ACC state chapters to collaborate on opportunities to improve overall heart health and cardiovascular care around the world. The BCS-CAACC program has facilitated the development of long-term relationships between cardiovascular professionals in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Dr. Hollman was an icon in the British Cardiovascular Society and became a strategic partner in the evolution of the CAACC twinning relationship. We will miss our mentor from across the pond.



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Dr. Arthur Hollman receiving CAACC commemorative plaque from Dr. Iain Simpson (President of British Cardiovascular Society) in recognition of his honorary membership in the ACC California Chapter



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In recognition of his valuable contributions to the historical context of Cardiology,
the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology hereby awards

ARTHUR HOLLMAN, MD, FRCP, FLS

Honorary lifetime membership to the CA ACC
with all the rights and privileges thereto.

Presented June 3, 2013

William Bonner, MD, FACC
President



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Dr. Arthur Hollman Dr. Dipti Itchhaporia and Dr John G. Harold
2013 Meeting of the British Cardiovascular Society, London, England