

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

VIRGINIA BERRIDGE

BA, PhD, HonMFPHM, FRHistS

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London

Virginia Berridge is Professor of History at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London. She is head of the History Group and of the newly established Centre for History in Public Health. Her research interests range from smoking, illicit drugs, alcohol and HIV/AIDS, to the recent history of public health. Her publications include *Opium and the People: Opiate use and drug control policy in nineteenth and early twentieth century England* (Free Association Books, London, 1999, second edition); *AIDS in the UK: The Making of Policy 1981-1994* (Oxford University Press, 1996); *Health and Society in Britain since 1939* (CUP/The Economic History Society, New Studies in Economic and Social History, 1999) and *Poor Health, Social Inequality Before and After the Black Report* (London, Frank Cass, 2002).

COLIN BLAKEMORE

PhD, ScD, FIBiol, FMedSci, FRS

Waynflete Professor of Physiology, University of Oxford

Director of the Oxford Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience

Chairman of the British Association for the Advancement of Science

Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council (MRC)

A brain scientist and science communicator, Colin is director of the Oxford Centre for cognitive Neuroscience and Chairman of the British Association for the Advancement of science. He has held the Waynflete Chair of Physiology at Oxford University since 1979 and is currently President of the Physiological Society and President of the new Biosciences Federation. Recently Colin has been appointed to the prestigious position of Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council (MRC).

Colin Blakemore studied medical sciences at Cambridge, completed a PhD at the University of California, Berkeley, taught at Cambridge for 11 years, and in 1979 took up the Chair of Physiology at the University of Oxford.

He has received many prizes for his research, which has been concerned with vision and the early development of the brain. He is also passionately committed to the public communication of science and won the Royal Society Michael Faraday Medal in 1989. He is a frequent broadcaster on radio (including the BBC Reith Lectures) and television (including the Royal Institution Christmas lectures and *The Mind Machine*, a 13-part series on brain and mind). He has also written widely for the general public: his most recent book is *The Oxford Companion to the Body*. He has contributed to the national debate on drugs, arguing that assessment of harm should be soundly based on scientific evidence, and that we must contemplate more radical approaches to the problem.

HAZEL BLEARS
Minister of State for Crime Reduction, Policing and Community Safety
Former Minister of Public Health
Sponsor Minister for Alcohol Strategy

Hazel Blears was elected MP for Salford in May 1997. She was appointed Minister of State for Crime Reduction in June 2003. Previously she had been Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health.

Before her appointment at the Department of Health, Ms Blears was Principal Solicitor for Manchester City Council. She was PPS for Rt. Hon Alan Milburn when he was a Minister of State at the Department of Health in 1998 and when he was Chief Secretary, HM Treasury between January and October 1999. Ms. Blears worked as a solicitor for Rossendale Council between 1981 and 1983 and for Wigan council between 1983 and 1985. She was a Salford City Councilor between 1984 and 1992 and was chair of Salford Community Health Council from 1992 to 1996.

JONATHAN CHICK
PhD, FRCPsych, FRCPE
Psychiatrist, Senior Lecturer, Edinburgh University

Jonathan Chick read Natural Science with Psychology at Cambridge University, and Medicine at Edinburgh University. He was a former Member of the Scientific Staff, Medical Research Council Unit for Epidemiological Studies in Psychiatry. He is now a Consultant Psychiatrist with the Alcohol Problems Service, Edinburgh; Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, University of Edinburgh.

Research interests: epidemiology of drinking problems; early detection and intervention for problem drinkers; stress and substance misuse in professions; biological markers of alcohol use; outcome and costs of alcoholism treatment; pharmacotherapy; motivational interviewing; health benefits of moderate drinking.

Advisor on several World Health Organisation projects and leader of eight large randomised controlled trials of treatment for alcohol problems, one of which (brief intervention in general hospitals) was recently in the three most quoted studies in the world literature on alcoholism treatment.

2002: Elected Honorary Life Fellow, Society for the Study of Addiction. 2002-3 Chairman of the SIGN Guidelines Group on Managing Alcohol Problems in Primary Care and the NHS Scotland Health Technology Board Assessment of Treatments to Prevent Relapse in Alcohol Dependence.

COLIN DRUMMOND
MB, ChB, MD, FRCPsych
Professor of Addiction Psychiatry, St George's Medical School, London

Colin Drummond is Professor of Addiction Psychiatry and Consultant Psychiatrist at St George's Hospital Medical School where he has been since 1993. Before that he was Lecturer and later Senior Lecturer in Addiction Behaviour at the Addiction Research Unit, National Addiction Centre, Institute of Psychiatry from 1987. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and his doctorate was on the subject of alcohol and public health.

Research interests include evaluation of addiction treatment approaches and psychological theories of addiction. He currently holds several research grants including a multicentre trial of CBT in addiction, and a trial of screening and intervention for alcohol problems in primary care. He is an Assistant Editor of the journal *Addiction*. He has published papers on a wide range of topics including drug and alcohol policy. He has been closely involved in providing advice to government on alcohol and drug misuse strategy. He is a member of the Alcohol Concern group commissioned by the Department of Health to produce proposals for a national alcohol strategy, and the National Treatment Agency working group.

IAN GILMORE
Registrar, Royal College of Physicians
Consultant Physician and Professor of Medicine, Royal Liverpool University Hospital

Professor Ian Gilmore is consultant physician and hepatologist at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, having trained at King's College, Cambridge and St Thomas' Hospital. He was an MRC Training Fellow at St Thomas's Hospital and later a MRC Travelling Fellow at the University of California, San Diego. His clinical and research interests have been in various aspects of liver disease.

He also holds the position of Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians, and chaired the working party that produced the report '*Alcohol – can the NHS afford it? Recommendations for a coherent hospital strategy*' in 2001. He sits on the external advisory group to the Cabinet Office for their alcohol harm reduction strategy that is under development.

CHRISTINE GODFREY
Professor of Health Economics at the University of York

Christine Godfrey is a Professor of Health Economics at the University of York. She has been researching into the economics of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs for the last 18 years. She was the President of the Society for Study of Addiction between 1998 and 2002. She is currently a non-executive member of the Board of the Health Development Agency, and a member of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, of the World Health Organization.

Current research projects include the UK Alcohol Treatment Trial, the National Evaluation of Smoking Cessation Services, and UKCBTMM, a randomised controlled trial of cognitive behaviour therapy for people receiving methadone maintenance.

LESLIE IVERSEN
PhD, FRS
Visiting Professor of Pharmacology, University of Oxford
Director of the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases at King's College,
University of London

Leslie Iversen is Director of the Wolfson Centre for Research on Age Related diseases at Kings College London, Visiting Professor at the Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford, and founder of the pharmaceutical company Panos Therapeutics Ltd. He was previously Director of the Neuroscience Research Centre set up by the international pharmaceutical company Merck & Co. Inc. in Harlow, Essex (1983-1995). He was Director of the UK Medical Research Council Neurochemical Pharmacology Unit in Cambridge (1970-1983).

He is interested in understanding how drugs work in the nervous system and in the molecular basis of nervous system disorders, and is particularly known for his work on the chemical messengers used for communication between nerve cells. He is the author of several books and of more than 350 scientific publications and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of London and a Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences, USA. He acted as the specialist adviser to the House of Lords Science & Technology Committee's enquiry into Cannabis, and his most recent books are *"The Science of Marijuana"*, Oxford University Press, 2000 and *"A Very Short Introduction to Drugs"*, Oxford University Press, 2001.

DAVID NUTT
DM, FRCP, FRCPsych, FmedSci
University of Bristol, Psychopharmacology Unit, School of Medical Sciences

David Nutt is currently Professor of Psychopharmacology, Head of the Department of Clinical Medicine and Dean of Clinical Medicine and Dentistry, based at the University of Bristol.

He received his undergraduate training in medicine at Cambridge and Guy's Hospital, and continued training in neurology to MRCP. After completing his psychiatric training in Oxford, he continued there as a lecturer and then later as a Wellcome Senior Fellow in psychiatry. He then spent two years as Chief of the Section of Clinical Science in the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism in NIH, Bethesda, USA. On returning to England in 1988 he set up the Psychopharmacology Unit in Bristol, an interdisciplinary research grouping spanning the departments of Psychiatry and Pharmacology.

He is currently a member of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, the Chair of the Technical Committee of the ACMD, the Committee on Safety of Medicines, and the MRC Neuroscience Advisory Board. In addition, he is advisor to the British National Formulary, the editor of the Journal of Psychopharmacology and the Past-President of the British Association of Psychopharmacology

MIKE TRACE

Since leaving a secondment to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in January 2003, Mike Trace has been working as an independent consultant. From June 2001 to November 2002, he was the Director of Performance at the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse, a special health authority charged with overseeing the expansion and improvement of the substance abuse treatment sector in England.

Previous to this, he managed projects tackling drug-related offending for many years. From 1987 to 1995 he was Head of the Criminal Justice Service at The Cranstoun Projects, one of the largest independent sector providers of drug services. In 1986 he worked for the California Youth Authority on rehabilitation for drug-using offenders in the USA. He was a member of the Criminal Justice Working Group of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) from 1992 to 1995 and has been a full member of ACMD since 1996. From 1995 to 1997, he was Chief Executive of the Rehabilitation of Addicted Prisoners Trust (RAPT) and Chair of the Criminal Justice Forum of the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse.

Mike Trace has chaired United Nations technical committees on the drugs issue and was for 2 years Chairman of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, where he was responsible for overseeing the collection and analysis of objective, reliable information concerning drugs and drug addiction at a European level.