

## Richard Newing

1923 - 1990



Dick Newing was the first Plastic Surgeon to be appointed to St Vincent's. Born in Melbourne the son of Dr W Newring senior physician at the hospital. Following school at Xavier College he entered the medical school University of Melbourne and graduated in 1945 taking the Ryan Prize in Surgery. After a resident year at St Vincent's, he took up a short service commissions in the RAN and saw service in Asia and the Pacific. He was proud of the tour in China where he was one of the last ships out of the Yangtze River in 1949.

After discharge from the RAN Dick returned to St Vincent's as clinical supervisor and passed into the MD, University of Melbourne in 1950.

Surgical training commenced in England where he passed the FRACS (Eng) in 1952 and started Plastic Surgery training at Mt Vernon. Dick Dawson and Ian Muir were prominent at that time and their influence stayed with Dick and was passed onto trainees at St Vincent's.

Dick worked at Great Ormond Street and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital before returning to Australia in 1954 and starting at St Vincent's as Assistant general Surgeon. Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons was bestowed in 1956

Dick held the position of Senior Plastic Surgeon until his retirement with Bernard O'Brien developed a unique vibrant Unit. The combination of Dick's artistry, flair and patient care with Bernie's scientific method investigation and energy fostered the developments which attracted worldwide attention.

A special interest in the treatment of advanced was developed from work at the Peter MacCallum Clinic where Dick established a Succorsive Surgery Unit giving palliation to many incurable cases.