

*Who was Professor Hare? Professor William (Bill) S.C. Hare was a very important figure in the AOSR. He was the AOSR Founding President and Organizing Chair of the 1<sup>st</sup> AOOCR in 1971. Dr Evelyn Ho collated information from a variety of sources (internet news, articles, AOSR 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History publication and connected with his daughter Lindy Hare) and in particular, **special thanks to the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) for assisting with information that helped make this article possible.***

### **The Founding President of the AOSR – Prof William (Bill) S.C. Hare**

**(20 Oct 1923 – 31 May 2013) and the 1<sup>st</sup> AOOCR, 1971, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.**

*Collated by Dr Evelyn Ho (Archives Chair 2023-2025) and RANZCR, May 2024.*

Professor William (Bill) S.C Hare is recognised as having provided many great contributions to the field of Radiology and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists of Radiologists (RANZCR). He is considered an early pioneer in the fields of neuroradiology, angiography, mammography and urography.

He was the first Professor of Radiology in Australia and, in 1965, was the first Chair of Radiology at the University of Melbourne. This was the first academic chair for radiology in Australia.

Professor Hare was appointed as President of the College between 1986 -1987 and was awarded the RANZCR Gold Medal in 1988. He is one of the distinguished few who has received both the Thomas Baker Scholarship (1957) and Rouse Travelling Scholarship (1963). In 2002, as a permanent acknowledgement of his great contributions, RANZCR established the Bill Hare Fellowship. Given annually, this Fellowship award supports a Fellow for a period of intensive and/or overseas study. The purpose of this award is to allow a qualified diagnostic radiologist to further their knowledge of an acknowledged subspecialty, which there is a recognised shortage, whether it be in Australia, New Zealand or somewhere overseas.

He was a world leader in Radiology and was awarded Radiological Society of North America Honorary Member (1984), Officer of the Order of Australia (1990), and International Society of Radiology Honorary Member (1994).

*Lindy Hare (Professor Bill Hare's daughter) shared, "...getting the AOSR up and running was dad's proudest achievement. He was so passionate about making radiology knowledge something to be shared across nations."*

### Professor Hare and the AOSR



The International Society of Radiology (ISR) was considered the global authority in Radiology and would hold, every four years, the International Congress of Radiology (ICR) in various cities around the world. In 1969, the ICR was held in Asia (Japan) for the first time. It was during the 1969 ICR that the first AOSR meeting was held.

The Australian delegates, Professor Hare and Dr Martin, extended an invitation to hold the first Asian-Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR) in Melbourne in 1971. In *Australasian Radiology* (1969, Vol 13, p253) Professor Hare wrote 'Much of our future depends upon developments in neighbouring nations... as one of the more advanced countries technologically, we are being encouraged to give a lead and to offer help.'

The College (RANZCR) Council agreed to expand the college's 1971 AGM in Melbourne to include the first AOCR to assist the growth and success of the AOSR as well as strengthen ties between radiologists from Australia and New Zealand with radiologists from Asia and the wider Pacific region. Professor Hare and the College encouraged members to take part in the AOCR and ensure its success.

Professor Hare was elected the founding President of the AOSR and Dr Martin the first Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. Professor Hare held the post of AOSR President from 1971-1975.



He attended the 14th AOCR, 2012. This was the second time, since the inception of the AOSR, that an AOCR was held in Australia; this time at the Sydney Convention and

Exhibition Centre, New South Wales from August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Professor Hare addressed the delegates at the opening session (named in his honour) of the joint AOCR2012 and RANZCR meeting.

*(Photos at the AOCR2012 are courtesy of Dr Evelyn Ho whilst the photo of a page from Professor Hare's speech is courtesy of Ms Lindy Hare, Professor Hare's daughter)*

Welcome all to the 14th AOCR. As founding president it gives me much pleasure to reflect on the 41 years since AOSR was formed, to become the third international radiological society following in the footsteps of RSNA, and ESR.

The success of AOSR to date has centered on the 13 Asian Oceanian congresses, which have provided opportunities for the radiologists in the region to meet and share technical knowledge, and experience the cultural activities of the host nation.

The opening ceremonies of the AOCR have always been graced by heads of state or their representatives. The first congress in Melbourne was opened by Sir Henry Bolte, the long serving premier of Victoria. Back in 1971 there were only two faculty members; Dr Benjamin Felton from Cincinnati for Radiodiagnosis, and Dr John Ho from Hong Kong for Radiotherapy, as it was then called.

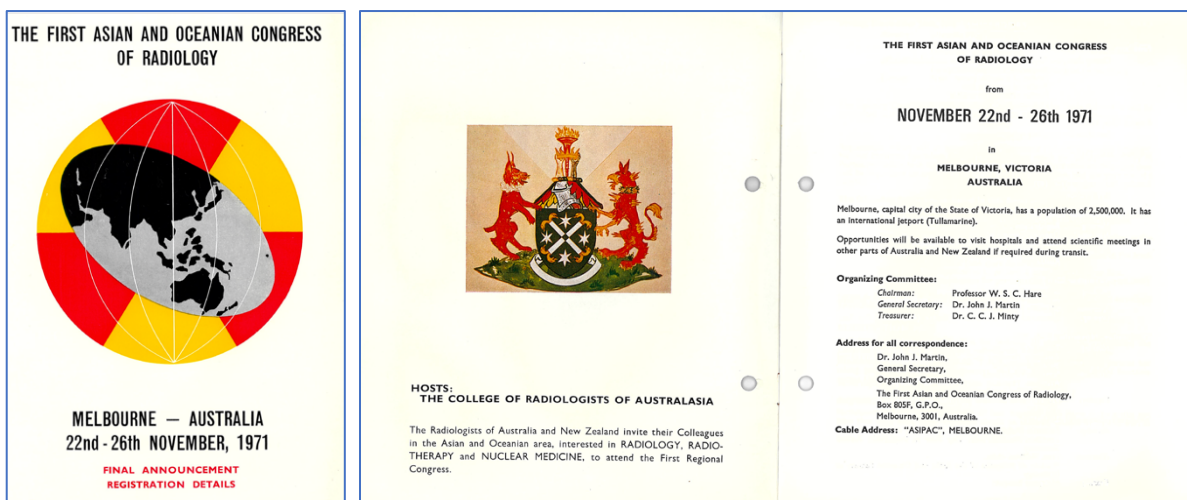


From L to R:  
 Dr Mei-Tiu Chiu  
 Prof Bill Hare  
 Dr Winston Lim  
 Dr Evelyn Ho  
 Dr Lilian Leong  
 Prof Yi Hong Chou

## The 1<sup>st</sup> AOCR, Nov 22-26, 1971, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

The 1<sup>st</sup> AOCR was held from November 22-26, 1971 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. The congress was opened by Sir Henry Bolte, then Premier of Victoria. The Australian government also issued a special souvenir first day stamp cover in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> AOCR.

*The following figures of the 1<sup>st</sup> AOCR final announcement and copy of the letter from the Organizing Chair, Professor Hare, to encourage colleagues to register for the 1<sup>st</sup> AOCR are courtesy of RANCRZ.*



**THE FIRST ASIAN AND OCEANIAN CONGRESS OF RADIOLOGY****Melbourne — 22nd-26th November, 1971**

HOSTS: THE COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS OF AUSTRALASIA

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN — Prof. W. S. C. HARE, M.D., F.C.R.A., F.F.R.  
SECRETARY — DR. J. J. MARTIN, F.C.R.A., F.F.R.  
TREASURER — DR. C. C. J. MINTY, F.C.R.A., F.F.R.ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: THE SECRETARY BOX 805 F., G.P.O., MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, 3001  
CABLE ADDRESS: ASIPAC, MELBOURNE

27th September, 1971.

Dear Colleague,

If you have already registered for the Congress I am sure you will be quite excited by the quality of the programme which has been prepared by the Scientific Sub-Committee!

If you have not registered, you may miss what will be a unique experience in radiological education in Australasia. When you read the programme I am sure you will feel encouraged to come to the Meeting at all costs. If so you will help the Organizing Committee by registering now.

Amongst the outstanding features will be the guest lectures by Professors Felson and Ho, the early-morning film reading sessions with Professor Felson, the special lecture by Professor Ichikawa on the Radiology of the Upper Gastrointestinal Tract, and the contributions of Professors Steiner, Bjork, Palmer and Fischer to mention just a few. In addition you will see that there are many interesting contributions from Australia and within the region.

Once again may I suggest that you register now if you have not already done so.

With best wishes,  
Yours sincerely,W.S.C. HARE.  
Chairman, Organizing Committee.