### Peter Cotton’s Memoirs

Signed copies available at www.peterbcotton.com

---

**The Tunnel at the End of the Light**

*My Endoscopic Journey in Six Decades*

- Forward by Dr Ian Taylor
- 1. Introduction
- 2. Life before endoscopy
- 3. Gastroscopy in the 1960s
- 4. Around the world in 1971; my first ERCP
- 5. British endoscopy in the 1970s
- 6. My first sphincterotomy
- 7. International travels in the 1970s
- 8. London endoscopy phase two (1980-86)
- 9. Cricket was confusing (especially to Americans)
- 10. The importance of golf
- 11. VIPs (Very Important Patients)
- 12. The travails of travel
- 13. Digestive adventures
- 14. Perils of the podium
- 15. To USA and Duke University
- 16. On to Charleston and MUSC
- 17. A seriously royal stone
- 18. Four days in September (9/11)
- 19. Partnership with industry
- 20. A tribute to surgeons, and a plea for restructuring
- 21. Endoscopy societies
- 22. British endoscopy revisited
- 23. Recent meanderings
- 24. Acknowledgements, afterthoughts and apologies
- 25. British or American?
- 26. Concluding

---

Professor Meinhard Classen, father of European endoscopy and inventor of sphincterotomy, wrote: “This book is just wonderful, historical and entertaining. Endoscopists all over the world should read it”

**From chapter 6.** I remember presenting endoscopic removal of stones at the Royal College of Surgeons in London in 1976. The President, a wine connoisseur, stated that the College should perhaps license a few medical gastroenterologists to perform the technique, but should charge “corkage” for each stone.

**From chapter 13.** In the early days, the food at Chinese hospitals was unpredictable and often mysterious. I was presented one lunchtime with “a favorite dish of the emperor to enhance your strength” during a long day of ERCP demonstrations. It was a thin stew, with lumps of gristle floating in it. After I finished, they giggled and said that it was made from the masculine member of the cow - I think they meant bull.

All proceeds from sale of the book go to the “Peter Cotton Endoscopy Training Fund” (in the MUSC Foundation) to support postgraduates seeking advanced endoscopic training.