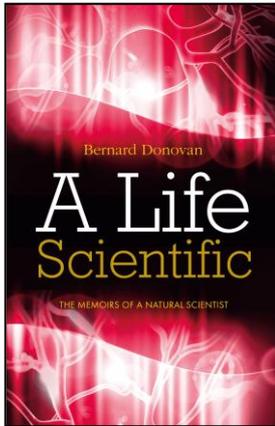


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A LIFE SCIENTIFIC

MEMOIRS OF A NATURAL SCIENTIST

by Bernard Donovan

“I became somewhat of an odd man out in our family as the only scientist they knew ... Here I try to show why the life of a scientist can be so fascinating ...”



ISBN: 978 1 86151 514 8 Paperback 407 pages RRP: £12.99 29 February 2016

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What is it *really* like to live and work as a scientist? What sacrifices do you have to make if your insatiably curiosity drives you to dedicate your life to enhancing mankind’s understanding of human biology? And what joys and sorrows await young people today who choose a career in science?

Professor Bernard Donovan (born 1927) is a globally-renowned, specialist in Neuroendocrinology – the study of how our hormones (the endocrine system) interact with our brains – and how, in turn, those interactions affect our behaviour, our emotional well-being, our physical health and our ability to become parents.

Brought up in wartime London, Bernard Donovan surprised his non-academic family by embarking upon a career in science. Little did he know then that his career would endure 65 years of momentous changes in medicine to which, he himself, made significant contributions. His work on reproductive function – concerned with the timing of puberty and the control of ovarian activity – was particularly innovative.

As the Editor of a leading scientific journal, *The Journal of Endocrinology*, and later as Secretary-General of the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers, he also contributed substantially to the betterment of the academic publishing industry and was a driving force behind the development of electronic processes in publishing. His final professional achievement was the writing of an authoritative biography of Solly Zuckerman, one of the twentieth century’s most influential biologists.

“Science progresses on the basis of many small advances based on flashes of insight ... being a good scientist requires patience, perseverance, imagination, curiosity and scepticism”

Thought-provoking and entertaining, Professor Donovan tells it how it was – with all the triumphs and disasters along the way. The book will appeal to all those interested in the history and development of science and will make fascinating reading for all biomedical scientists – especially any working in neuroendocrinology. It is also an eye-opening read for anyone contemplating a career in science.



About the author: Professor Bernard Donovan, PhD, DSc, FRSB was born in London in 1927. After National Service in the Navy, he embarked on a career in science which would eventually lead to him being recognised worldwide as a leading figure in biomedical research. With numerous Honours and University appointments, he is the author of more than 200 peer-reviewed research papers and eight scientific books. He has held office or been a member of a wide range of medical, scientific and academic bodies and continues to be a Member of The Society for Endocrinology; The Physiological Society; The Royal Society of Biology and The Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers. Professor Donovan now lives in Hastings, East Sussex. Professor Donovan’s full professional and academic *curriculum vitae* are available on request.

Media opportunities: Extracts/serialisation. The author is available for interviews. **Local UK interest:** The author spent his boyhood in wartime **London (in Peckham)**. He received all three of his degrees from **London University**. Professor Donovan lived in the **Bromley** and **Beckenham** area of **Kent** for many years. He now lives in **Hastings** in **East Sussex**.



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