

The membership of the Savile Club can be described as a truly 'interdisciplinary republic' where professions mix. SODALITAS CONVIVIUM, the Club's motto, expresses admirably the enjoyment of members as together they talk, drink and eat, in spite of their different backgrounds, accademical achievements and professions. Anderson chose wisely when he titled his history *Hang your Halo in the Hall! A good word of advice to a new member, or a visitor, holding forth at length on his hobby, only to be contradicted by his neighbour—who often happens to be the world's expert on the subject*. It is a golden rule, even for an old member, to inquire carefully into the expertise of an unknown member, if he wants to enter into a discussion.

It is of course quite impossible to give a full list of all the distinguished members of the Savile, and I must restrict myself to mentioning a few names. Among the literary figures: Rudyard Kipling, Robert Louis Stevenson, Max Beerbohm, Sir Henry Rider Haggard, Thomas Hardy, A.P. Herbert, H.G. Wells and J.B. Priestley will always be remembered.

Equally distinguished were the musicians, like the Savilians: Frederick Delius, Sir William Walton, Sir Adrian Boult, Sir Edward Elgar and Sir Arthur Bliss, who brought enjoyment through their compositions and conducting genius to many hundreds of thousands, not only to the Members of the Club. Sir Henry Moore, the sculptor, Sir David Low, the caricaturist, Sir Ralph Richardson, the actor, Michael Powell, the film director, and Stephen Potter, the inventor of 'lifemanship', all added 'sovereignty' to the interdisciplinary republic of the Savile Club.

Geographical location within London determines to a large extent the kind of membership of a Club. In the Savile there were very few lawyers from the Inns of Court and few merchants from the city, but quite a number of medical men from nearby Harley Street.

If the above list deals with the past, let me add a few more scientists whom I had the pleasure of knowing personally at the Club. Sir Arthur Vick, pro-Chancellor of Warwick University, took the chair at an after-dinner talk I gave at the club about "Medals of Scientists". Erasmus Darwin became a good friend [See also Title 375], a direct descendant of Charles Darwin and one of the eleven members of the Darwin family who had been, or were now, Members. Sir John Cockcroft, Nobel Laureate and the first Director of the Harwell Atomic Energy Research Establishment, interviewed me at the Club in 1955 for a job as scientific cinematographer at Harwell, but I did not qualify.