

THE TRUSTEES OF THE ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

cordially invite you to the launch of

JOHN HENRY BIGGART

Pathologist, Professor and Dean of Medical Faculty, Queen's University, Belfast

By Denis Biggart

Tuesday 24 April 2012
7.00pm for 7.30pm

in the Christ Church Library
Royal Belfast Academical Institution
College Square East
Belfast, BT1 6DL

GUEST SPEAKER

Sir Peter Froggatt

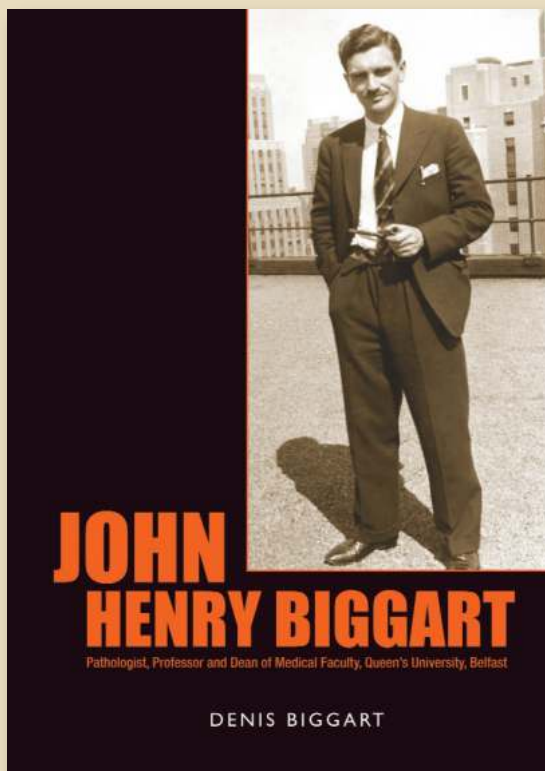
Light refreshments provided
Parking available

RSVP

Ulster Historical Foundation
49 Malone Road, Belfast, BT9 6RY
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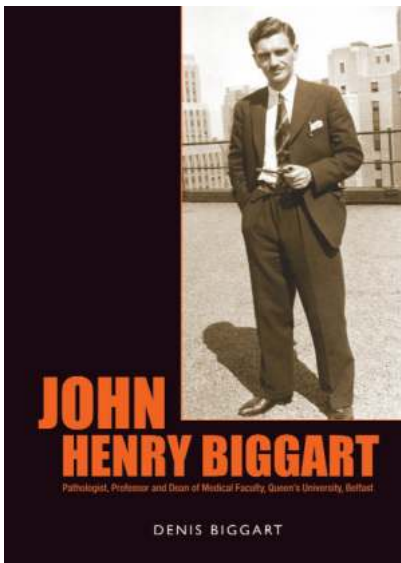
ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION





Return address:

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'John Henry Biggart was quite simply the most creative force in Ulster medicine in the twentieth century, perhaps ever'. This authoritative assessment of Biggart features in Sir Peter Froggatt's Foreword to this biography, written by John Henry's son Denis. One of Ulster's many claims to fame is the contribution that has been made by generations of its medical practitioners: it is entirely appropriate that a biography should now appear, dedicated to the doyen of the province's long and honourable medical tradition.

The first half of the book is based on memories recollected by John Henry in the last few years of what was, by any standards, a pioneering life – early childhood in the country with his parent school teachers, school days at Royal Belfast Academical Institution, itself long noted for its medical tradition, university education at Queen's, clinical training at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast and his decision to follow a career in pathology. He gained a prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship,

spending two years at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, USA, returning to Edinburgh University as a pathologist and lecturer. In 1937, aged only 31, he became Professor of Pathology at Queen's University, Belfast, embarking on an illustrious university career including an unprecedented 27 years as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, the award of a knighthood in 1967, and culminating in being appointed as a Pro-Chancellor of Queen's in 1972.

Denis Biggart here brings a unique perspective on his father – as a son, a medical student, a trainee pathologist and ultimately a lecturer in his father's university department, revealing sides to John Henry's character previously hidden from colleagues locally and medical acquaintances worldwide.

Peter Froggatt's summary embodies the huge feeling of debt to Biggart's brilliant medical mind: 'Everyone who knew Sir John Henry Biggart or has profited from his medical education should welcome and possess this book, which now fills a yawning gap in the 177-year Belfast Medical School's historiography.'

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