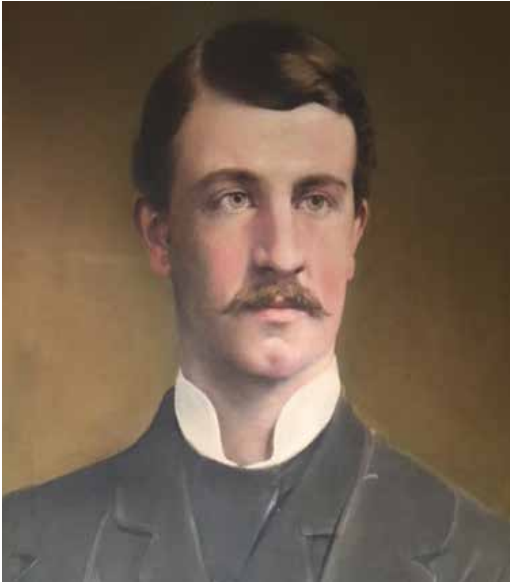


# RANZCO Museum

The Museum exhibit at RANZCO's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Congress in Adelaide included the history of artificial eye development, ocular pharmaceuticals and the contributions of Landolt.

## Early peripatetic ophthalmologists in South Australia



*Fig 1. A portrait of Charles Gosse*

Charles Gosse was appointed as an Adelaide Hospital honorary staff member in 1881, the first to practice as an eye specialist in Adelaide. One year after Carl Koller announced his discovery in Heidelberg of cocaine drops for local anaesthesia, Gosse introduced the technique in Adelaide.



*Fig 2. Pocket pharmacy*

Early ophthalmologists travelled frequently so they carried portable kits which included miniature pharmacies and boxed operating instruments. Their arrival in town was often heralded by an advertisement in the local newspaper. Early pharmaceuticals were frequently used in conjunction with herbal remedies particularly in the irrigation of the conjunctiva by the use of undines and eye baths. Trachoma and corneal ulceration were treated with caustic chemicals.



*Fig 3. Knapp's rollers and forceps*

Copper sulphate and silver nitrate (lunar caustic) were painted on the tarsal plate prominent follicles and were brutally crushed with Knapp's rollers.



*Fig 4. John Taylor*

The quacks were alive and well. The most famous being John Taylor of Norwich.

Despite cataract surgery being in its infancy, he travelled widely in Europe promoting himself, blinding both Handel and Bach. Quack remedies were popular with drops, salves and serum advertised to cure cataract.

At RANZCO's 2018 Congress the Jim Martin Prize for historical posters was awarded to Dean Cugley – The peripatetic ophthalmologist, first prize. Second prize was awarded to Kerelus Morkos – Landolt the ophthalmologist.