

“Teasing Problems” - The increasing importance of forensic odontology

Robin Odell

Reading

ABSTRACT

The durability of teeth has been known since ancient times, but their importance as a means of identification is a relatively recent phenomenon. Since the 1950s, forensic odontology has grown into an exact science and plays a special role in identifying the victims of crimes, natural and man-made disasters, as well as wars and genocide.

Medical Detectives, published in 2013, highlights some of the contributions made by British forensic specialists and others which are the subject of today's presentation.

Bob Odell is a true crime writer with a long-standing interest in the history, development and use of forensic science in criminal investigation.

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Robin Odell was born in Hampshire in 1935. After working as a university laboratory technician and completing his National Service, he developed an interest in crime writing.

His Jack The Ripper In Fact And Fiction published by Harrap (1965), is still regarded as a major contribution to the subject. In a writing career spanning more than thirty-five years, he has written or co-written sixteen books. He now lives in South Oxfordshire and continues to write and lecture on crime and criminology.

Robin Odell won the Gold Medal at the 2007 Independent Publisher Book Awards in the True Crime category for Ripperology: A Study of the World's First Serial Killer (Kent State University Press) and is a nominee of the Mystery Writers of America 2007 Edgar Allan Poe Awards.