

Obituary

Homage to Richard M. Elliott

Alain Kohl ¹, Benjamin Brennan ¹ and Friedemann Weber ^{2,*}

¹ MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research, Glasgow G61 1QH, Scotland, UK; alain.kohl@glasgow.ac.uk (A.K.); Ben.Brennan@glasgow.ac.uk (B.B.)

² Institute for Virology, FB10—Veterinary Medicine, Justus-Liebig University, Gießen 35392, Germany

* Correspondence: friedemann.weber@vetmed.uni-giessen.de; Tel.: +49-641-99-38351

Academic Editors: Jane Tao and Pierre-Yves Lozach

Received: 3 August 2016; Accepted: 8 August 2016; Published: 10 August 2016

In the last 25 years, the scientific and public attention paid to bunyaviruses has increased considerably. This has many reasons (one of them being that new family members are constantly emerging) and many drivers, but there was one man whose name will be forever connected with the *Bunyaviridae* family. Richard M. Elliott passed away in 2015 at the age of 61. With his unstoppable enthusiasm, strong vision, perseverance, and his keen interest in almost every aspect of bunyavirus replication, he greatly contributed to the progress in the field [1]. While his most prominent achievement may be the first rescue of a segmented negative-strand RNA virus (the type species Bunyamwera) from plasmid cDNA, he also studied glycoprotein processing, particle assembly, anti-interferon mechanisms, phylogeny, vaccine development and host cell factors. Yes, these are the main topics of this special issue of *Viruses*, and Richard could have chosen any of them to write a competent review himself. Lamentably, this is not possible any more, but we will always remember the man who helped to foster so much of the past research and train the next generation of scientists studying the “Cinderellas of virology” (in his own words) which in reality constitute one of the biggest virus families ever known.

References

1. Brennan, B.; Weber, F.; Kormelink, R.; Schnettler, E.; Bouloy, M.; Failloux, A.B.; Weaver, S.C.; Fazakerley, J.K.; Frangkoudis, R.; Harris, M.; et al. In memoriam—Richard M. Elliott (1954–2015). *J. Gen. Virol.* **2015**, *96*, 1975–1978. [[CrossRef](#)] [[PubMed](#)]



© 2016 by the authors; licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).