

Sir Don Beaven

Harper House 1938–1942 College No. 4741

Sir Donald Ward Beaven KNZM, CBE

Sir Don Beaven was a ground-breaking pioneer in diabetes treatment and prevention and public health initiatives. He was a tireless promoter of healthy living, and a founder of Canterbury's wine-growing industry.

After graduating from the University of Otago, he eventually moved into general practice on the West Coast. Later, he left for London, becoming the medical registrar of four teaching hospitals. Sir Don returned as the senior resident physician of Christchurch Hospital and clinical tutor to the University of Otago medical facility. A foundation Professor of the Christchurch School of Medicine, he held appointments and fellowships all over the world.

Highly respected internationally, Sir Don was made a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2005 and later accepted a knighthood.

Sir Don is immortalised in a bronze bust at the Christchurch Arts Centre.

Sir Don died in November 2009.

