

In memory of



Stephen A. Copeland FRCS

Mr Stephen Copeland was a pioneer of shoulder surgery and founder of the Reading Shoulder Unit. He designed the 'Copeland shoulder' for shoulder resurfacing and introduced shoulder arthroscopy to the UK. Between 2004-2010 he was Chairman of the Board of the International Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons. He was a former President of the British Elbow and Shoulder Society and European Shoulder Surgery Society. He was also the first corresponding Fellow of the American Shoulder and Elbow Society. The globally known shoulder surgeon retired from practicing in 2009 but continued to take an active part in the teaching activities of the unit. Sadly Stephen passed away in 2015, in his memory the Berkshire Independent Hospital named the hospital ward after him. The Reading Shoulder Unit is where his legacy still lives on.

How to refer your patients

NHS: Refer via NHS E-referral system

For enquiries: info@readingshoulderunit.com

Private Patients:

Professor Ofer Levy, MD MCh(Orth) FRCS

PA: Anne Randall Telephone: 0118 902 8116

Email: anne.randall@ramsayhealth.co.uk / anne@readingshoulderunit.com

Private Patients:

Mr Giuseppe Sforza MD MCh(Orth)

Secretary: Tania Telephone: 07488 384 479

Email: tania@readingshoulderunit.com

NHS Patients:

Secretary: Helen Henly Telephone: 0118 902 8109

Email: helen.henly@ramsayhealth.co.uk



What our patients say

The Reading Shoulder Unit have a rating score of Excellent for making a patient feel at ease, understanding your concerns, communicating effectively and ultimately explaining to you the nature of your condition. Giving you a 5-star service.

"Excellent care, not only was my consultant interested and caring he resolved my issues very quickly. The support staff were incredibly caring and professional. What a great team!"

Patient Survey Feedback



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MK-1171-313-SIT-502 Issue Date: Mar 2023 Review Date: Mar 2026 Public



Reading Shoulder Unit An International Centre of Excellence



The Reading Shoulder Unit, an International Centre of Excellence at the Berkshire Independent Hospital investigates and treats patients with all types of disorders of the shoulder and the elbow. The Unit is recognised worldwide, treating patients locally, nationally and internationally.

The Unit was founded by two leading orthopaedic surgeons, Stephen Copeland and Ofer Levy, in 1998. It was one of the first specialised shoulder units to be established in the UK.

The Reading shoulder unit team, led by Professor Ofer Levy, includes Mr Giuseppe Sforza (Co-Director), Mr Paolo Consigliere, shoulder surgery fellows and an experienced team of physiotherapists, nurses and research staff.

The Unit treats all kinds of shoulder and elbow problems including:

- Arthroscopic (keyhole) surgery
- Shoulder reconstructive surgery
- Total shoulder replacement
- Rotator cuff repair
- Fractures
- Dislocations
- Sports injuries
- Arthritis and degenerative conditions
- Elbow reconstructive surgery
- Total elbow replacement

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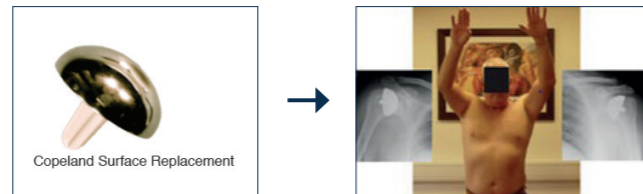
The Berkshire
Independent Hospital
Part of Ramsay Health Care

International Centre for Shoulder Replacement

The Unit is regarded as the world centre for shoulder resurfacing and stemless reverse shoulder replacement. 'The Copeland Shoulder', a cementless resurfacing shoulder replacement technique now used worldwide, and the 'Verso shoulder', a cementless stemless bone preserving reverse shoulder replacement, were developed in the Unit. The Unit has produced standardised rehabilitation protocols in conjunction with specialist shoulder physiotherapists. Other hospitals and physiotherapists are currently adopting these protocols nationally and internationally.

Copeland Shoulder

The Copeland shoulder has been in use over 35 years with excellent results. This shoulder resurfacing is a bone preserving procedure and ideal for young patients with shoulder arthritis.

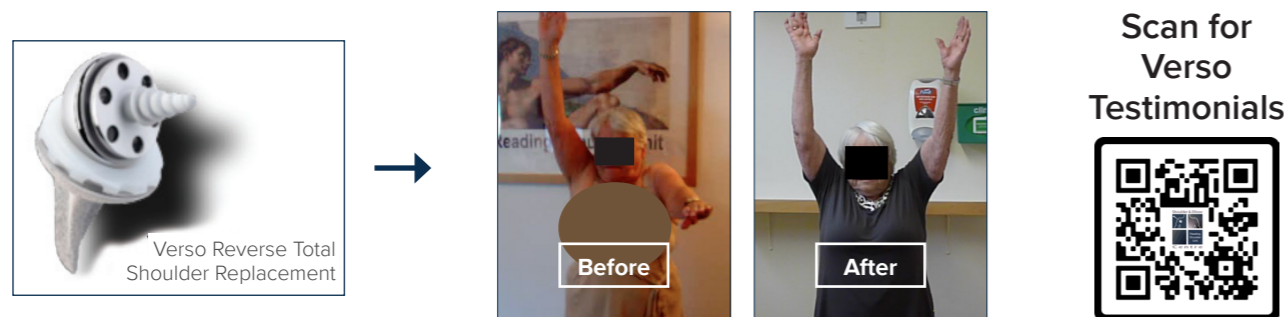


A patient after bilateral Copeland shoulder surface replacement.

Verso Shoulder

The Verso shoulder is the first stemless reverse total shoulder replacement. It has been in use over 16 years with outstanding results. This stemless prosthesis is bone preserving, hence can be used in younger patients as well.

To find out more about the Shoulder replacement service, scan the QR Code and visit our website at: readingshoulderunit.com.



The patient before her surgery in 2007 and 9.5 years post stemless Verso Total Shoulder Replacement

Teaching, Surgical Education and Training

The Reading Shoulder Unit is internationally renowned for its training programmes. Since 1982 it has held Shoulder Surgery Courses. These courses attract both British and international shoulder surgeons. Advanced shoulder surgery courses for arthroscopic surgery and for shoulder arthroplasty. These courses include satellite transmission of live surgery and workshops, in Reading, as well as across the UK and internationally.

Courses on shoulder surgery for specialist registrars are regularly held in the Unit, as well as teaching seminars for general practitioners, physiotherapists and nurses.

The Reading Shoulder Unit has a fully-equipped bio-skills laboratory for teaching and practising open and arthroscopic surgical techniques.

Research and Development

The Unit's work includes basic scientific and clinical studies, as well as the development and introduction of new surgical techniques, instruments and implants, in both arthroscopic and open surgery. We have introduced the concept of a 'one-stop clinic' for diagnosis and treatment of shoulder problems by performing an ultrasound scan of the shoulder at the time of first consultation, saving the patients time and discomfort and initiating treatment without delay.

Consultant surgeons



Professor Ofer Levy MD MCh (Orth) FRCS

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon - Shoulder and Elbow Surgeon

Ofer Levy studied medicine at the Hebrew University and Hadassah School of Medicine, Jerusalem from 1976 to 1982. After completion of his military service he continued his surgical training at Kaplan Medical Centre in Rehovot, Israel, and later at Sheba Medical Centre, Tel Hashomer, his higher orthopaedic surgical training.

In 1992 he was appointed Instructor of Orthopaedic Surgery at The Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, where his work include significant research into both clinical and basic sciences. In 1995 he was appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon and Chief of the Shoulder Surgery Service at Soroka Medical Centre and Lecturer in Orthopaedic Surgery at the Faculty of Health Science at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva.

In 1997, on sabbatical leave from Ben-Gurion University he worked with Stephen Copeland at the Royal Berkshire hospital in Reading. In 1998 he was appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Royal Berkshire Hospital and together with Stephen Copeland they founded the Reading Shoulder Unit. He was awarded national clinical excellence award since 2006.

Professor Levy established and chaired (2000 - 2016) the Orthopaedic Research Unit - Brunel University, London. In 2020 was appointed Professor of Orthopaedic surgery at the Faculty of Health Science at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel. He is assistant editor, Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery and associate editor, Journal of Shoulder and Elbow arthroplasty.

He is a founding member of the Israeli Shoulder and Elbow Society, a member of the European Society of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery and the British Elbow and Shoulder Society (BESS) and Corresponding member of the American Shoulder and Elbow Society. Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Fellow of the British Orthopaedic Association and Israeli Orthopaedic Association. He is Honorary member of many national shoulder and elbow societies including the Brazilian, Argentinian, Chilean, German, Polish, and South African (the Giraffe club). He has published extensively scientific papers and presentations and chapters to books on Shoulder Surgery. Developed and introduced numerous arthroscopic and open novel surgical techniques, including resurfacing shoulder replacement and the Verso stemless reverse total shoulder replacement. Invented and was involved in development of numerous new surgical instruments and devices. He is invited to lecture worldwide.



Giuseppe Sforza MD MCh(Orth)

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon - Shoulder and Elbow Surgeon

Giuseppe Sforza studied medicine at Università degli Studi di Bari, Italy from 1986 to 1992 where he completed his higher orthopaedic training. He spent periods of fellowship at the Danderyd Hospital - Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden and at the Southern California Orthopaedic Institute, Los Angeles, United States, where he started research into shoulder arthroscopy and open shoulder surgery.

Between 1999 and 2000 he was a shoulder surgery Fellow at the Reading Shoulder Unit under Stephen Copeland and Ofer Levy, where he gained vast experience in shoulder and elbow surgery. After completion of his fellowship at the Reading Shoulder Unit, returned to Italy and was appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at Madonna delle Grazie Hospital in Matera, Italy as Head of the Shoulder and Elbow Unit. In 2004 he joined the Reading Shoulder Unit as well as working as a locum consultant orthopaedic surgeon and shoulder and elbow surgeon at Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Trusts for several months and later was appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Worcester NHS Trust until 2015. In 2013 he completed a Master in Wrist and Hand Surgery at University of Milan in Italy. He splits his time between the Reading Shoulder and Elbow Centre and London at the Schoen Clinic. He has been board member of the Italian Shoulder and Elbow Society and of the Italian Arthroscopy Society where he has served on the Educational Committee. He has organised several national and international meetings. He is a member of the European Society of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery and serves in the membership committee and member of the British Shoulder and Elbow Society. He is a reviewer for the Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. He has published several scientific papers and chapters to books on shoulder surgery.