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GEORGE DANIELS

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For immediate release

As legendary watchmaker George Daniels' entire personal collection goes under the hammer at Sotheby's on 6 November, now is the time to buy a slice of history and find out more about the man behind the dials.

To coincide with Sotheby's much-talked-about auction, Web of Stories is selling the remaining numbered copies of George Daniels' autobiography. These highly collectable numbered copies (originally 27 were published) reflect the same number of watches George Daniels made wholly himself. Made in full goatskin with gold tooling and a recessed panel covered by a watchglass, each book contains a piece of watch created by Daniels himself. These books are timeless and unique and can be purchased for £4,000 each.

George Daniels CBE, DSc, FBHI, FSA (19 August 1926 – 21 October 2011) was one of only a few modern watchmakers who could create a complete watch by hand, including the case and dial, without any assistance. He is most famous for creating the co-axial escapement (the device that drives a timekeeping mechanism) which has been described as the most important horological development for 250 years.

He created his first mechanical watch in 1969, making fewer than 100 pocket watches and wrist watches in his lifetime, each of which typically involved 2,500 hours of work. In 1981, he was awarded an MBE and in 2010, a CBE. He is the only watchmaker to ever have been awarded the honour of 'Master Watchmaker, for services to

Horology'. He was a former Master of the Clockmakers' Company of London and had been awarded their Gold Medal, a rare honour, as well as the Gold Medal of the British Horological Institute, the Gold Medal of the City of London and the Kullberg Medal of the Stockholm Watchmakers' Guild.

Web of Stories also has a series of insightful clips from Daniels, sharing priceless memories of his career, his fascination with motor cars, the complexities of creating the co-axial escapement as well as his early years, including his first experience of a watch: *'My interest in watches was first aroused by the discovery in the house of a watch. I don't know who it belonged to, but it was fair game to open it up with the bread knife and examine its contents.'*

These fascinating recordings, and many more, can be watched as a number of short clips, with a fully searchable transcript. All Web of Stories videos are easy to share with friends and colleagues, and may be embedded into personal blogs and websites. To watch George Daniels on Web of Stories: <http://www.webofstories.com/people/george.daniels/1>

To order the George Daniels autobiography: <http://www.webofstories.com/qdbook>

NOTES FOR EDITORS ABOUT WEB OF STORIES

Everyone has a story to tell. Over time many stories become forgotten, but now Web of Stories offers members of the public the chance to tell their stories for future generations to enjoy. The project is built on the belief that we all have wonderful stories to share, and have family and friends whose tales we would like to hear.

Web of Stories began as an archive of life stories told by some of the great scientists, writers and artists of our time. As the number of stories grew, it became obvious that some were on related topics and that a web was slowly being created of connected stories.

We welcome anyone to come and talk about virtually anything they like. Just like our famous speakers, we hope you will record your stories for others to enjoy.

CONTACT

For more information on Web of Stories or any of our videos please contact the Press Desk on +44(0)20 7323 0323 or press@webofstories.com

Should you wish to refer to Web of Stories and our video interviews please ensure that a link to Web of Stories is clearly viewable on your site.