In Memoriam

This section, In Memoriam, brings to the attention of Fellows and Collegiate Members the deaths of colleagues and friends. Obituaries – intended to record and pay tribute to the life and work of Fellows and Collegiate Members whose deaths have been reported in In Memoriam – can be found on the College website: www.rcpe.ac.uk/fellows_&_members/obituaries/index.php

Fellows and Collegiate Members are warmly invited to provide the Obituaries Editor (Dr Derek Doyle) with information that will enable him to write or commission obituaries (debedoyle@surefish.co.uk).

Paul Crosby FRCP Edin
Specialty: Respiratory/Thoracic Medicine
b. 28.10.1916; d. 01.01.2007
MB Mumbai 1951; DTM&H Edin 1953; MRCP Edin 1954; Fellowship 1977

Stephen John Hadfield FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Practice/Primary Care
b. 15.08.1908; d. 05.02.2007
MRCS Eng 1933; MB Camb 1935; MRCP Edin 1969; Fellowship 1974

Mailoo Visuvartanam FRCP Edin
Specialty: Geriatric Medicine
b. 07.02.1931; d. 17.04.2007

James Crawford Little of Morton Rig FRCP Edin
Specialty: Psychiatry
b. 22.05.1922; d. 27.04.2007
MB Bristol 1947; DPM Durham 1954; MRCP Edin 1956; MD Bristol 1966; FRC Psych 1971; Fellowship 1971

Braj Mittra FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Internal Medicine
b. 28.10.1934; d. 01.05.2004
MB Agra 1956; DTM&H Edin 1959; MRCP Edin 1960; PhD Belf 1966; FRCP London 1986; Fellowship 1971

Walter Ruthven Lang FRCP Edin
Specialty: Infectious/Communicable Diseases
b. 12.06.1917; d. 01.07.2005
MB Otago 1940; MRCP Edin 1948; MRACP 1947; FRACP 1970; Fellowship 1972

William Donald Alexander FRCP Edin
Specialty: Diabetes/Endocrinology
b. 02.04.1928; d. 09.05.2007
MB Glasg 1951; MRCP Edin 1959; Fellowship 1966

Douglas Dale McCarthy FRCP Edin
Specialty: Rheumatology
b. 06.03.1931; d. 26.04.2007
MD Toronto 1955; MRCP Edin 1965; FRCPCan 1971; Fellowship 1981

Syed Nizamuddin Mahmood FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Internal Medicine
b. 01.02.1918; d. 13.07.2006
BSc Kolkata 1946; MB Kolkata 1951; MRCP Edin 1955; Fellowship 1971

Graeme John Anthony Inglis Snodgrass FRCP Edin
Specialty: Paediatrics/Community Child Health
b. 04.09.1934; d. 15.12.2006
MB Edin 1958; DCH Eng 1960; MRCP Edin 1964; Fellowship 1976

Zafar Husain Zaidi FRCP Edin
Specialty: Paediatrics/Community Child Care
b. 21.03.1933; d. 31.05.2006
MB Lucknow 1955; DCH Eng 1960; MRCP Edin 1965; Fellowship 1980

Professor Sir Raymond (Bill) Hoffenberg KBE, FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Internal Medicine and Medical Education
b. 06.03.1923; d. 22.04.2007
MB Cape Town 1948; MD Cape Town 1957; PhD Cape Town 1968; FRCP Lond 1971; FRCP Ire 1987; FACP 1987; FRACP 1989; Fellowship 1983

William Keith Campbell Morgan
Specialty: Respiratory/Thoracic Medicine
b. 01.07.1929; d. 23.03.2007
MB Sheff 1953; MRCP Edin 1958; MD Sheff 1961; FACCP 1972; FRCPC 1978; Hon FFOM 1997; Fellowship 1971

Yarazdad (Vic) Melikian FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Internal Medicine
b. 24.02.1931; d. 15.11.2006
MRCS Eng; LRCP London 1959; MB Lond 1959; MRCP 1966; MRCP Lond 1968; FRCP Lond 1981; Fellowship 1975

Alistair Mitchell MacDonald FRCP Edin
Specialty: Pathology/Paediatrics and Community Child Health
b. 01.08.1911; d. 25.03.2007
MB ChB Edin 1935; MRCP Edin 1939; MD Edin 1941; FRC
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Path 1963; FRCS&P Glas 1966; Fellowship 1943
Guru Charan Mookerjee FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Internal Medicine
b. 16.03.1917; d. 01.03.2007
MSc Kolkata 1938; MB Kolkata 1942; MRCP Edin 1953;
MRCP Lond 1956; FRCP Lond 1971; FACC; FAlID; FICP;
Fellowship 1964

Richard Harold Charles Rischbieth FRCP Edin
Specialty: Neurology
b. 4.08.1927; d. 26.04.2007
MB Adelaide 1951; MRCP Edin 1955; MRCP Lond 1955;
MRACP 1958; FRCP Lond 1976; FRACP 1978; Fellowship1971

Sir James Parlane Baird KBE FRCP Edin
Specialty: General Internal Medicine
b. 12.05.1915; d. 26.05.2007
MB ChB Edin 1937; MD Edin 1958; MRCP Lond 1946;
FRCP Lond 1959; MRCP Edin 1947; Fellowship 1952

PAST PRESIDENTS

Sir Alexander Dick (1703–1785)
Not all presidents of our College achieved fame as physicians or medical academics. John Hope was a famous Professor of Botany; Joseph Black was as well-known as a chemist as a physician. John Pringle was equally famous as a Professor of Moral Philosophy, and Alexander Dick gained fame because of his residence, Prestonfield House, and the guests he entertained there — men such as Benjamin Franklin, Dr Samuel Johnson and his biographer Boswell, and John Morgan, one of the founders of the College of Physicians of Pennsylvania.

Dick studied medicine at Edinburgh, then, like so many of his contemporaries, under Boerhaave in Leiden where he was awarded his MD. For the next 20 years, he practised as a physician in Edinburgh and Wales until, on the death of his elder brother in 1746, he inherited the magnificent house, estate and baronetcy. Managing the estate was a full time job, but in 1756 he took on the Presidency of our College for seven years.

Prestonfield had already seen much excitement in its short history. It had been burnt down in 1689 by students angry about Sir William Dick’s continuing friendship with the Catholic Duke of York (later to be King James II). Thwarted when trying to set alight an effigy of the Pope, they inadvertently set fire to the house. It was duly rebuilt. A young accountant who lived and worked there later became the first Accountant of the newly founded Bank of England, his name — George Watson, founder of one of Edinburgh’s most famous schools. Franklin may have stayed there because of the interest he and Dick shared in electricity, but it is known that it was he who brought John Morgan to Scotland to study under Cullen and Dick (1761–63). Today, we associate Franklin with Hewson, the father of haematology, with William and John Hunter, the anatomists, and with Alexander Monro Secundus, whose rift with Hunter and Hewson he tried to heal. Johnson stayed there at the end of his Scottish travels; enjoyed meeting Hope the Botanist (and another President of the College) and later wrote of his pleasure at the hospitality he had enjoyed. Since 1959 Prestonfield has been a hotel and popular restaurant for new doctors celebrating their graduation (www.prestonfield.com). Some might become presidents!

Derek Doyle
Obituaries Editor, The Journal RCPE