

G.I.H. BRAINE

Dr George Ian Hector Braine, Physician: b. 28.10.1903; d. 18.10.2001. MB Edin 1928; FRCP Edin 1974.

Dr George Braine was born in Castle Douglas. After qualifying in Edinburgh he obtained a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in 1930. Dr Braine entered the Malaysian Medical Service and worked as Chief Medical Officer in Kelantan. He retired in 1974. Dr Braine was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

J. CARSWELL

Dr James Carswell, Consultant Physician: b. 18.10.1923; d. 2.01.2001. MB Glas 1946; FRCP Edin 1983.

Dr James Carswell was a houseman at Glasgow Royal Infirmary before entering military service. In 1951 he started his Colonial Medical Service in Kenya. On his return to Scotland in 1964 he worked as Medical Superintendent at the Scottish Borders Hospital Group. The following year he was appointed Assistant at the Tropical Diseases Unit and Infectious Diseases Unit at Edinburgh City Hospital and Honorary Clinical Tutor at Edinburgh University. Dr Carswell returned to Africa in 1971 and took the post of Consultant Physician at Edendale Hospital in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. In 1992, he moved to France where he lived until his death.

T. SHWE

Dr Tin Shwe, Physician: b. 13.8.1936; d. 1.12.2000. MB Yangon 1960, DPTM Yangon 1967, DCMT Lond 1968, PhD Lond 1972, FRCP Edin 1996.

After graduating in Yangon in 1960 Dr Shwe became deeply involved in the treatment and control of leprosy – a disease which is endemic in Myanmar. Following the completion of his studies Dr Shwe returned to the Union of Myanmar where he took charge of a large leprosy hospital whilst continuing his research.

His interest in tropical medicine deepened, leading to his obtaining the Diploma in Preventive and Tropical Medicine (DPTM Yangon) in 1967, the Diploma in Clinical Medicine of the Tropics (DCMT Lond) in 1968 and a Doctorate in Tropical Medicine (PhD Lond) in 1972.

In 1984, Dr Shwe became a full time research officer at the Clinical Research Unit in the Department of Medical Research, Ministry of Health. During this period of his career he carried out research into malaria and its complications and was responsible, with a handful of colleagues, for pioneering the testing of the efficacy of a new class of antimalarial drug derived from artemisinin which has now become a standard parenteral drug used for severe forms of falciparum malaria.

Dr Shwe was promoted to Research Scientist and Head of the Clinical Research Unit in 1992 where he worked until his retirement in 1996. He was a prolific writer, publishing over 160 books, scientific papers and public health education articles during his career, and his literary endeavours earned him a number of honours, including being awarded the National Literary Award from the Ministry of Information and Culture.

W.E. KIRKPATRICK

Dr William Ernest Kirkpatrick, Consultant Dermatologist: b. 16.10.1934; d. 16.4.2001. MB Leeds 1959, FRCP 1976, FRCP Edin 1994.

Dr William Kirkpatrick was a houseman at Bradford Royal Infirmary and St Luke's Hospital. He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1960 and served in Cyprus. On demobilisation in 1963 he worked as Senior House Officer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Wolverhampton Women's Hospital. He then returned to Bradford Royal Infirmary as Senior House Officer in General Medicine and was appointed Registrar in Dermatology there in 1966. Dr Kirkpatrick became Tutor in Dermatology at Leeds University in 1968 and the following year took the post of Consultant Dermatologist in Bradford and the Airedale area. Dr Kirkpatrick emigrated to Canada in 1975 and entered private practice as a dermatologist, and also held the post of Assistant Professor in Dermatology at the University of Manitoba.

F.I.A. AL-ANI

Dr Fawzi Ibrahim Ali Al-Ani: b. 1.7.1943; d. 27.8.2001. MB Baghdad 1966; FRCP Edin 2000.

Dr Al-Ani occupied a number of clinical positions within Iraq and, in particular, Baghdad following completion of his military service.

After he gained the MRCP Dr Al-Ani was appointed to his first consultant position at Hilla Republic Hospital, Baghdad in 1973 where he worked until 1980 before being appointed as Senior Consultant Physician and Head of the Medical Department in Marjan teaching hospital. In 1990, Dr Al-Ani moved to Saddam General Hospital, Baghdad, where he occupied a similar position before taking up a prestigious teaching appointment at Saddam Medical City where he also occupied the position of consultant physician and Director of the Saddam Medical City, Baghdad, for over three years. During this time he played a major role in the clinical teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates before moving to Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates, in 1999 to become a senior consultant physician at the Al-Yousef Medical Centre.

R.D. SPOONER

Dr Robert Dubois Spooner, Physician: b. 27.2.1925; d. 8.3.2000. MB Sydney 1947, FRACP 1972, FRACGP 1974, FRCP Edin 1982.

After graduating from Sydney University, Dr Robert Spooner spent two years as a houseman at hospitals in New South Wales and Queensland before entering his own general practice in Sydney. He also held honorary appointments of Clinical Assistant at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Assistant Physician at the St George Hospital in Sydney. Dr Spooner moved to North Queensland in 1960 and was appointed Consultant Physician at the Cairns Base Hospital where he was responsible for both paediatric and adult medicine. He was also Consultant Physician to the Australian Military Forces in the area.

A.J. KING

Dr Andrew James King: b. 27.9.1942; d. 15.10.2001. MB Edin 1967, FRCP Edin 1984.

Following his graduation in 1967, and during his early career, Dr King occupied junior positions in the Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy, and the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh before being appointed as Lecturer in the Department of Medicine, University of Edinburgh where he taught from 1968–72.

In 1972, Dr King moved to England to take up post as Senior Registrar in Leeds before being appointed as Consultant Physician in general/respiratory medicine at St Luke's Hospital in Bradford – a position which he held for 18 years until his early retirement, through ill-health, in 1993.

G.H. CHOA

Professor Gerald Hugh Choa: b. 21.3.1921; d. 3.12.2001. MB Hong Kong 1946, FRCP Lond 1968, FPPHM 1972, FRCP Edin 1972, FHKCP, CBE.

Professor Gerald Choa was a Founding Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Physicians and the Founding Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Following his graduation in 1946 Professor Choa obtained the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Health (DTM&H Liverpool 1948) and embarked upon a distinguished career following his first appointment as Lecturer in Medicine, University of Hong Kong, in 1949. In 1956, he took up position as Specialist, and was then promoted to Senior Specialist, at Queen Mary Hospital, Medical and Health Department, Hong Kong before being appointed as Deputy Director of the Department in 1967. His career continued to progress, as shortly thereafter

he rose to the position of Departmental Director in 1970, a capacity in which he served for six years before taking up post as the Founding Dean, Faculty of Medicine, and Professor of Administrative Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

After his retiral Professor Choa continued to take an active role in assisting the Hong Kong Wah Yan College, University of Hong Kong and was a Trustee of the Wah Yan Post-Secondary Education Trust Fund.

In addition to being a Founding Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Physicians he served as Vice-President from 1986–8, Council Member from 1991–3 and was re-elected as Vice-President from 1993–5. His death was a very sad loss to the Hong Kong College of Physicians.

B.R. HILLIS

Dr Barclay Renfrew Hillis: b. 11.4.1922; d. 23.3.2001. MB Glasg 1945; FRCP Edin 1961.

Following his graduation in 1945 Dr Hillis joined the Royal Air Force (RAF) and was posted to RAF Padgate where he started to develop an interest in respiratory disease – an interest which was to last for his entire career.

On leaving the RAF Dr Hillis occupied junior positions within Stobhill and Ruchill Hospitals Glasgow before being appointed as Medical Registrar in the Respiratory Disease Unit at the Northern General Hospital, Edinburgh, under Professor Sir John Crofton.

After further training in Glasgow Dr Hillis was appointed as a consultant in Barnstaple, North Devon, in 1960, where he became known as the 'midnight physician' due to his studious habit of ensuring that he had completed entirely his day's work before commencing with the next day. Dr Hillis's career culminated in his return to Scotland where he was appointed as consultant physician in respiratory medicine based at Law Hospital, Carlisle.

J.M. SMITH

Dr John Morrison Smith, Consultant Chest Physician: b. 30.4.1918; d. 15.2.2001. MB Glasg 1940; DPH Glas 1946; DTM&H Edin 1946; MRCP Edin 1949; FRCP Edin 1963.

Dr John Smith qualified in medicine at the outset of World War II. Following two resident appointments, in surgery and medicine, he spent the rest of the war years on troopships conveying troops and supplies in convoys to the Middle and Far East before being appointed as Medical Adviser on India to the former governments of the British East African Protectorate at the end of the war.

On returning to the UK Dr Smith took up the position

of Registrar at Bangour Hospital, Edinburgh. In 1981, Dr Smith was appointed as Consultant Chest Physician for the Birmingham region, based at the Regional Thoracic Surgical Unit in Bromsgrove where he continued to practice until his retirement. During this time he became widely known in the region for his interest and work in the treatment of tuberculosis and asthma in children and he was responsible for establishing a special clinic for children with severe asthma. In addition, he worked with a local newspaper to set up free holidays abroad for children in order to allow them to have a break from their lives in crowded and polluted urban areas.

Dr Smith was an active member of a variety of professional organisations including the British Allergy Society, of which he was President (1969–72), the British Tuberculosis Society and the British Thoracic Society. He will be remembered by all who knew him as a compassionate physician whose advice was much valued, and for his love of sailing and golf. He will be sadly missed.

H.A. MEREDITH

Dr Henry Alfred Meredith, Physician: b. 8.6.1929; d. 18.2.2001. MB Melbourne 1953; FRCP Edin 1994.

After postgraduate training (and marriage) in Great Britain Harry Meredith came back to Australia to work, in the provincial town of Bendigo, as a Physician in Group Practice. He was appointed to the Bendigo Base Hospital as an Honorary Physician, and assumed a heavy workload of both public and private patients over many years until his retirement in 1997.

He had a great love for sport. He had been a brilliant Australian Rules player in his youth, and took a lot of committee responsibility in one of the football clubs. He was also a great follower of equine sport, loving to boast about his big wins and keeping quiet about his losses.

He also had a great sense of humour. Whether it was at a medical or sporting function he would entertain everyone with his dry wit and humour.

He was known to a wide circle of devoted patients, friends and acquaintances, but above all he was a family man, devoted to his wife, six daughters and grandchildren.

He was full of vim and vigour until a bus accident last year ended the life of a respected and popular Physician.

JEG

The Editor welcomes contributions to the Obituaries section, either self-written or written by relatives and friends. Please keep contributions concise, limiting pieces to 200–400 words.