

Obituaries

PROFESSOR ALEXANDER STUART DOUGLAS

Alexander Stuart Douglas, Emeritus Professor of Medicine, University of Aberdeen.

b 2.10.21; d 15.11.98. MB ChB Glasgow 1944; RAMC 1945-48; FRCPSG 1950; FRCPE 1957; FRCPL 1964; FRCPath; Hon FACP.

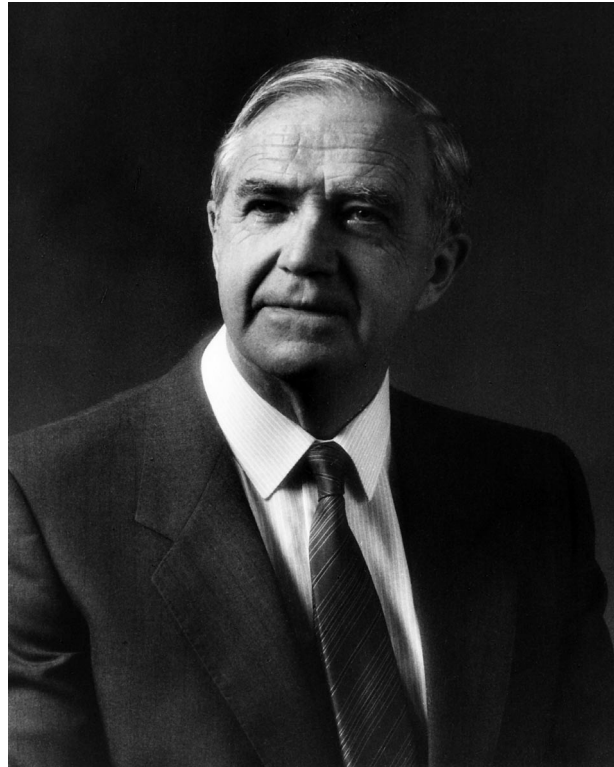
Alexander Stuart Douglas, Physician and Haematologist, died on 15 November 1998 aged 77 years. He was born on 2 October 1921.

Professor Douglas achieved international acclaim for his work in elucidating the mechanisms of normal blood coagulation, the causation of abnormal bleeding and the pathogenesis of thrombosis. He played a key role in Medical Research Council committees which investigated the value of anticoagulants in the prevention of recurrence of myocardial infarction, and later, with the Maryland Medical Research Institute, where he investigated the role of antiplatelet agents in the prevention of recurrence of stroke and myocardial infarction. This seminal work set the scene for modern management of these problems.

Alexander Stuart Douglas hailed from a humble crofting background, and was educated at Elgin Academy and then at Glasgow University - graduating BSc (1941) and MBChB (with commendation) 1944. After his house posts in medicine and surgery, he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps (1945-1948) mainly in Palestine during a period of civil unrest. He was promoted to the rank of Major and 'Mentioned in Despatches'.

His interest in blood coagulation began in 1951 when he won a Medical Research Council Fellowship to work at the Blood Coagulation Research Unit in Oxford with Dr R.G. MacFarlane (later Professor and FRS) and Dr Rosemary Biggs. Here he worked on the development of a test to further elucidate the complex mechanisms of the normal pathways of blood coagulation (the thromboplastin generation test). This resulted in the finding that 'haemophilia' could be divided into two distinct types. The second type was called 'Christmas disease' after the first patient (the publication also happened to be in the Christmas issue of the *Lancet* which confused many people!).

On return to Glasgow in 1953, he became a lecturer in medicine with Professor L.J. Davies and subsequently with Professor E.M. McGirr. He there continued with his interest in general medicine in which he took an equal share with his NHS colleagues. He developed a reputation as an 'early bird' and many junior staff were caught out by his early morning rounds which were conducted with meticulous attention to clinical detail - no stone was left unturned. During this time he built up the specialty of Clinical Haematology which gradually extended into a laboratory base with the growing technical advances in blood cell processing. Many trainee haematologists went through this system and now run haematology laboratories/



wards around the world.

His first love was in the highly specialised research area of blood coagulation. He established and ran a clinical and diagnostic service for patients with bleeding disorders (haemophilia, Christmas disease and von Willebrand's disease). He was in great demand from colleagues when they were extremely challenged by bleeding patients in their wards. Often he was able to sort these out as he had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the family trees of 'his' bleeders. He kept meticulous notes of all patients he saw and investigated - many with undefined abnormalities in the coagulation mechanism. Nothing pleased him more than when an advance in coagulation knowledge could be applied to 'his' families in retrospect.

These were exciting times in the evolution of knowledge of haemophilia treatment as the availability of plasma concentrates of factors VIII and IX became a clinical reality. The availability and the possibility of making factor VIII concentrates locally came about with the development of the 'cryoprecipitation' method. In an early experiment, Dr John Davidson and I bled each other of a 'pint' of blood, made the cryoprecipitates, mixed them and infused the 'soup' into a moderately affected haemophilic patient who required the removal of a toenail: no bleeding at all was recorded after surgery. From such small beginnings evolved the concept of comprehensive haemophilia care.

The other area in which he was deeply involved was the study of inhibitors of fibrinolysis – the mechanism by which the haemostatic plug is digested. He argued correctly that such therapy would alter the balance of clot formation and dissolution in haemophilia. As a result of his work, antifibrinolytics such as aminocaproic acid and tranexamic acid became standard therapy following dental extraction in haemophiliacs.

The other major area of research, both clinical and laboratory, was into the causes and treatment of thrombolysis. In this he worked with the multi-talented George MacNicol whose special interest was in the development of agents to activate the process of thrombolysis. In the early 1960s, our attempts to show the benefit of thrombolysis following acute myocardial infarction came to nothing as therapy was given too late. This was an exciting time for the team, and laid the foundations of modern therapy for heart and stroke disease.

By his own admission one of the most exciting periods of his life was a secondment in 1965 to set up the new Faculty of Medicine in Nairobi. That this was achieved is a lasting tribute to his zeal and diligence. He overcame unbelievable hurdles of downright opposition, distrust, jealousy and antagonism to make it work; to get a teaching programme underway to an equivalent UK standard and to start a research base with Graham Turpie (now Professor of Medicine in McMaster University, Ontario, Canada) and myself as the research trainees. A series of quality clinical and laboratory papers were subsequently produced from this small beginning.

On becoming Regius Professor in Aberdeen in 1970, he not only continued his work on bleeding and thrombolysis but with great foresight encouraged research and development in the study of ‘Offshore Medicine’ with the establishment of an Institute of Environmental and Offshore Medicine of which he was a Director. His work was recognised by the award of Fellowship of the three Royal Colleges of Physicians (Glasgow, Edinburgh, London), the Fellowship of the American College of Physicians, the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and, uniquely, by Membership of the American Association of Physicians.

Even in his retirement from his Chair in 1985, his love of research continued and he was to be found every day in the University working on his new interest of seasonality of various medical conditions. He published 23 peer-reviewed papers on this topic and wrote the definitive textbook *Seasonal Variations in Health and Disease* with Dr T.M. Allan.

He was a man of great modesty, and always played down his achievements and accomplishments. He was well-liked and respected as a scientist and clinician. He took a particular interest in training young scientists and clinicians, and his lasting memorial is the large number of ‘his young men and women’ who now occupy senior academic and clinical positions round the world.

He is survived by his wife Christine, two children and three grandchildren.

CDF

PROFESSOR ANNE FERGUSON

Anne Ferguson, Professor of Gastroenterology, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh.
b 26.7.41; d 21.12.98. MB ChB Glasgow 1964; PhD 1974; FRCPE 1981; FRSE 1990.

Anne Ferguson was born in Hillington, Glasgow of a scientific family. Her mother taught mathematics, and her father was a DSc in metallurgy and much involved in steel research. Anne had a distinguished undergraduate career at Glasgow University, achieving an honours MB ChB with a first class BSc in Physiology. Within two years of qualification she became a Lecturer in Medicine at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. This led to a close association with Professor Delphine Parrott and an important series of papers defining the role of cell-mediated immunological factors in the development of coeliac disease followed. She was awarded PhD in 1974 and developed an international reputation in mucosal immunology. Her potential was recognised by Dr Wilfred Sircus who enticed her to Edinburgh as Senior Lecturer in Gastroenterology with Honorary Consultant status at the Western General Hospital. In 1979 she was awarded the Avery Jones Medal of the British Society of Gastroenterology, for the most outstanding young researcher, and in 1980 was appointed Reader in the University. She was elected to Fellowship of the Glasgow,



London and Edinburgh Royal Colleges of Physicians in 1975, 1977 and 1981. In 1984 she was elected FRCPath and in 1990 a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. In 1987 she became the first woman to be awarded a Personal Chair in Medicine within the Scottish University system.

Over 25 years she produced 280 publications devoted to aspects of intestinal immunology and inflammatory disease of the intestine. A large number of medical and non-medical research fellows became associated with her department and achieved post-graduate degrees. She was responsible for generating large research grants, funded by MRC, Scottish Office, medical charities, the NHS Executive and from industry. She was the author of many chapters in medical and immunological books.

Anne Ferguson's research concerned the complex dynamic interplay between mucosal lymphocytes and intestinal absorptive functions. She described the importance of intraepithelial lymphocytes in the pathogenesis of coeliac disease and she introduced and proved the concept that T-cell mediated immune reactions within the gut mucosa could produce enteropathy and malabsorption. In the 1980s her studies extended to the phenomenon of oral tolerance; the fact that if a foreign substance is encountered via the gut, this produces striking suppression, rather than stimulation of immune responses. These contributions extend outside gastroenterology and oral tolerance is now being exploited as a novel method for treating multiple sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis. Her group developed and exploited a whole gut perfusion system to study the nature and regulation of intestinal immunity and inflammation in man. This allowed investigation of gut immunophysiology as well as leading to the development of novel tests of intestinal bleeding, protein-losing enteropathy, gut inflammation and fibrosis. As the years developed, her interests moved from coeliac disease towards inflammatory bowel disease and she was responsible for the development of hypotheses relating to the genesis of Crohn's disease.

The work of Anne Ferguson's laboratory is recognised nationally and internationally, and has fostered international collaboration; indeed several of her former students, stimulated by Anne's example, lead their own successful research groups. Her expertise was recognised by her appointment as President of the International Society for Mucosal Immunology. In addition to this she fulfilled a wide range of important national and international scientific and medical roles. She was an active member of the Scottish Office Biomedical Research Committee 1990-1994, a member of the UK Committee on Safety of Medicines 1993-1995, the MRC Gene Therapy Co-ordinating Committee from 1993, the MAAF Food Sensitivity Board from 1995 and was a Member of the Governing Board of the Rowett Research Institute from 1995. Most recently she was an advisor to the government Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee and member of the MRC Advisory Committee to advise the Department of Health on issues relating to measles, measles vaccination and Crohn's disease. Her international reputation was exemplified by her appointment as an external reviewer of the Clinical Sciences Research Programme of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases Research in Bangladesh; she later acted as an external consultant to the Centre, advising and collaborating on research strategies

and funding.

Anne Ferguson contributed greatly to clinical gastroenterology within Britain. She was a recognised expert in coeliac disease and her contribution to clinical management of young persons suffering from inflammatory bowel disease was widely recognised. Indeed, her referral practice extended throughout Scotland and North England, and her analytical and critical approach to diagnosis and treatment resulted in the GI Unit at the Western General Hospital becoming a referral centre for young persons who develop these chronic debilitating diseases. She was devoted to the GI Unit at the Western and, whilst being proud of its long tradition and excellence in clinical gastrointestinal practice, she had the capacity to see over the horizon and the need for development. In the last year of her life she started a 'Refit' project, revolutionising the process by which patients who presented to the GI Unit were managed. This involved the development of 'One Stop Clinics' through innovative employment of paramedical staff and administrators. She was largely responsible for the development of the clinical 'GI Lab'. Over many years this developed a range of tests of gastrointestinal function and, in collaboration with endoscopic, radiological and other laboratory services, has been responsible for a comprehensive investigatory and treatment facility which offers a comprehensive service to patients presenting with gastrointestinal disease.

Anne was a strong-minded individual. Once her energies were concentrated upon a problem, whether clinical, academic or administrative, it was pretty certain that it would be solved. At times her single-mindedness might generate ripples or even waves, but a successful outcome was in focus and the end was usually achieved. Such single-mindedness was also evident by her remarkable success as an athlete. She was a middle distance runner, played basketball for Scotland, competed with success at the Highland Games, winning the famed Maiden's Race at Kinlochleven on one occasion. Anne was also a mountaineer and hill walker, and climbed in the Himalayas with her first husband. She was at one time a keen supporter of Scottish Nationalism though subsequently turned towards the Labour Party with much conviction. The cause and principles of social justice were always dear to her. She donated generously to charity, and gave her time and expertise to special research projects in Sierra Leone and Bangladesh. The degree of kindness that she sometimes exhibited was striking - those of us in the GI Unit will remember her efforts, for example, to facilitate the career of a young doctor who developed a serious chronic arthritis and also the special personal relationships that she developed with some of the very disabled patients for whose medical care she was responsible.

Professional relationships with Anne Ferguson were often frustrating. Her analytical mind and single-mindedness were daunting and sometimes difficult to manage. Her standards were high and scientists and clinicians were continually on guard and forced to justify their actions. What was most disarming was the degree of personal warmth which engendered great affection coupled with respect.

She is survived by her second husband, Professor Gerry Collee and two children from her first marriage, Kathleen and Douglas.

KRP

BISHESHWAR LAL AGARWAL

Dr B.L. Agarwal died on 22 February 1998. He was born on 20 December 1922 and graduated MB BS at the Medical College, Lucknow in 1945. After Army Service that included two years in Japan, he did his postgraduate training in England. Dr Agarwal gained his MD in 1960 and in 1963 was appointed Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Medical College in Allahabad, India. He was elected to Fellowship in 1969.

ALLAN CHARLES ARTHUR

Dr A.C. Arthur died on 15 July 1998. He was born on 18 May 1922 and graduated MB ChB at the University of Glasgow in 1945. Dr Arthur first entered general practice in England. In 1966 he emigrated to Australia where he became interested in neurology, particularly the problems of head injuries. He was appointed Honorary Physician at Armidale Hospital, New South Wales in 1966. He was elected to Fellowship in 1976.

ROBERT ARTHUR JOHN BIDDULPH

Dr R.A.J. Biddulph died on 6 January 1998. He was born on 15 January 1935 and graduated MB at the University of Sidney in 1959. In 1961 he moved to Papua New Guinea where he worked organising the paediatric services. He was appointed first Senior Paediatrician and then Professor of Child Health at the University in 1974. Dr Biddulph was honoured OBE. He was elected to Fellowship in 1976.

GEORGE DUNCAN CAMPBELL

Dr G.D. Campbell died on 18 July 1998. He was born on 7 February 1925 in South Africa and graduated MB ChB at the University of Edinburgh in 1951. Dr Campbell had a particular interest in diabetes. After his return to South Africa he was appointed Specialist Physician at Natal and was involved in work with Zulu population. He was elected to Fellowship in 1966.

MANOHAR SINGH CHADHA

Dr M.S. Chadha died on 11 September 1997. He was born in 1905 and graduated MB in 1927 in the Punjab. Dr Chadha passed his membership examination in 1931. He was elected to Fellowship in 1963.

JOHN GODFREY COWLEY

Dr J.G. Cowley died on 1 February 1995. He was born on 4 October 1913 and graduated MB BCh at the University of Witwatersrand in 1937. After working for several years in general practice, he served in the South African Armed Forces during World War II. In 1954 he joined the Department of Dermatology at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. Dr Cowley returned to Johannesburg in 1957 and entered consultant practice in dermatology. He was elected to Fellowship in 1969.

ROBERT JOHN CUTHBERT

Dr R.J. Cuthbert died on 16 December 1998. He was born on 27 May 1917 and graduated MB ChB at the University of Glasgow in 1940. Dr Cuthbert's specialty was internal medicine. He was particularly interested in respiratory and thoracic medicine. In 1953 he was appointed Consultant Chest Physician of the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow. Dr Cuthbert became a Fellow of the

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1950. He was elected to Fellowship in 1963.

WILLIAM HERBERT HARGREAVES D

Dr W.H. Hargreaves who died recently graduated in 1931. In 1932 he was commissioned in the Royal Army Medical Corps. From 1951 to 1959 he was a Professor of Medicine at the University of Baghdad. Dr Hargreaves's specialty was tropical medicine. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London in 1950 and was honoured with the OBE. He was elected to Fellowship in 1965.

KENNETH HAZELL

Dr K. Hazell died on 24 December 1998. He was born on 3 February 1909 and trained at Bristol University and King's College Hospital in London. After graduation in 1931 he held various hospital posts in England. During World War II he served in the RAF as a specialist in neuropsychiatry. In 1956 Dr Hazell went to Canada as Consultant in Rehabilitation to the Federal Government. After returning to England he took up geriatric medicine, and in 1997 he was awarded the 50th Anniversary Silver Medal by the British Geriatric Society. Dr Hazell was a Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and the Royal College of Physicians of London. He was elected to Fellowship in 1961.

ALFRED JONATHAN LEVI

Dr A.J. Levi died on 4 January 1999. He was born on 27 July 1933 and graduated MB BChir at Cambridge University in 1958. Dr Levi started his clinical training as a house physician at Westminster Hospital, London. From 1959 to 1961 he served in the Royal Air Force Hospital at Wegberg, Germany. In 1968 he gained an MD at Trinity College, Cambridge. Dr Levi's academic distinctions include the 1957 Sturgess Class Prize in Clinical Medicine and the 1969 Gail Zuckerman Fellowship. In 1969 he was appointed Consultant Physician with an interest in gastroenterology at Northwick Park Hospital and Clinical Research Centre. In 1976 Dr Levi became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London. He was elected to Fellowship in 1982.

SIDNEY LEVINE

Dr S. Levine died on 5 August 1998. He was born on 18 September 1932 and graduated MB ChB at the University of Glasgow in 1955. From 1956 to 1958 Dr Levine served in the Royal Army Medical Corps. In 1967 Dr Levine was appointed Consultant Psychiatrist at Oldham and District General Hospital. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1977. He was elected to Fellowship in 1978.

WILLIAM EWAN MACLEAN

Dr W.E. MacLean died on 19 May 1998. He was born on 2 December 1912 and graduated MB ChB in 1935 at St Andrews University. In 1947 he gained a Diploma in Child Health in London. His specialty was occupational medicine with an interest in paediatrics and community child health. In 1991 Dr MacLean was honoured with the OBE. He was elected to Fellowship in 1994.

JOHN ALEXANDER MCLEOD

Dr J.A. McLeod died on 1 June 1998. He was born on 9 February 1925 and graduated MB ChB in 1949 in New

Zealand. Having completed his postgraduate training in Edinburgh, he returned to New Zealand in 1953 where he worked in respiratory medicine. In 1974 he was appointed Head of Department of Respiratory Medicine at the Princess Margaret Hospital in Christchurch. Dr McLeod was a President of the Thoracic Society Of New Zealand. He was elected to Fellowship in 1976.

SUDHANSU SOBHAN MAITRA

Dr S.S. Maitra died recently. He graduated MD in 1936 at Patna University. During World War II he served in the East and was awarded a War Medal in 1944. After the war Dr Maitra became an honorary lecturer in medicine at Wellington Hospital, New Delhi. In 1962 he was awarded 'Padma Bhushan' for meritorious service by the President of India. He was elected to Fellowship in 1964.

MARCEL MALDEN

Dr M Malden died on 16 July 1998. He was born on 22 June 1922 and graduated MB ChB in 1952 at Sheffield. His specialty was neurology with particular interest in problems of chronic pain. From 1958 he worked in the United States where he was elected a Fellow of the American College of Physicians in 1973. Dr Malden was also a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada. He was elected to Fellowship in 1982.

KENNETH ROBERT MITCHELL

Dr K.R. Mitchell died in January 1998. He was born on 21 June 1921 and graduated MB in 1951 in Queensland, Australia. His specialty was paediatrics and community child health. Dr Mitchell was elected a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in 1976. He was elected to Fellowship in 1983.

KESAV KATTINGERE NAYAK

Dr K.K. Nayak died on 1 August 1998. He was born on 1 August 1917 and graduated MB BS in 1936 at Madras. In 1961 he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Consultant in the Armed Forces Medical College in Poona. He was elected to Fellowship in 1963.

IVAN JOSEPH PINTO

Dr I.J. Pinto died on 14 March 1997. He graduated MB BS at Bombay in 1949 and in 1951 he gained his MD. Dr Pinto's specialty was cardiology and in 1964 he was appointed Honorary Associate Professor of Cardiology at SETH GS Medical College and KEM Hospital, Bombay. He held a post of consultant cardiologist at Bombay Hospital and also at Hospicio and Asilo Hospitals, Government of Goa. In 1962 Dr Pinto became a Fellow of the American College of Cardiologists. He was elected to Fellowship in 1968.

DONALD BRUCE SCOTT

Dr D.B. Scott died on 2 November 1998. He was born on 16 December 1925 in New South Wales, Australia and graduated MB ChB in 1948 at the University of Edinburgh. From 1949 to 1953 Dr Scott served as a Medical Officer in the Colonial Service in Ghana. After his return to Edinburgh he was appointed Registrar in Anaesthetics at the Royal Infirmary. In 1959 he gained his MD and was appointed Consultant in Anaesthetics. Dr Scott's interests included cardiovascular, respiratory and pharmacokinetic aspects of

anaesthesia and intensive care. In 1969 Dr Scott became the Director of Research in the Department of Anaesthetics. His studies were mainly in drug metabolism and haemodynamics. In 1955 Dr Scott became a Fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists. He was elected to Fellowship in 1979.

VINCENT BERNARD SHEPHERD

Dr V.B. Shepherd died on 5 September 1998. He was born on 20 June 1933 and graduated MB BS in 1955 in Queensland, Australia. In 1960 Dr Shepherd moved to the United Kingdom where he worked as a senior house officer, first in Lancashire and then in London. In 1963 he returned to Australia where in 1966 he was appointed Visiting Consultant Physician at Brisbane. In 1980 Dr Shepherd became Head of the Department of Medicine, Mater Misericordiae Public Hospitals, Brisbane. He was elected to Fellowship in 1982.

ROBERT WALMSLEY

Dr R. Walmsley died on 24 August 1998. He was born on 1 June 1906 and graduated MB ChB at the University of Edinburgh in 1930. In 1937 he gained MD with Gold Medal and was later appointed Professor of Anatomy at the University of St. Andrews. Dr Walmsley became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1953. He was elected to Fellowship in 1965.

WINDSOR JOHN WESTON

Dr W.J. Weston who died recently was born on 4 August 1920 and graduated MB ChB in 1944 in New Zealand. Dr Weston specialised in radiology and had a particular interest in skeletal radiology. He was a foundation member of the International Skeletal Society. He was elected to Fellowship in 1959.

ROBERT BAIRD WILSON

Dr R.B. Wilson died on 19 October 1998. He was born on 11 February 1917 and graduated MB ChB with Honours in 1940 at the University of Glasgow. His specialty was internal medicine with particular interest in metabolic disorders. In the 1950s he participated in the early trials of the new insulins. Dr Wilson became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1964. He was elected to Fellowship in 1969.