

## Obituaries

### DMF BATTY

Dr Donald Marcus Fielding Batty died on 9 December 1999. He was born on 17 October 1909 in Darlington and graduated MB ChB at Edinburgh University in 1933. After graduation he acted as a clinical tutor at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and later held posts in the Departments of Anatomy and Physiology. His next appointment was at the Deaconess Hospital as Physician-in-Charge. Dr Batty returned to the Royal Infirmary soon afterwards and took the post of Consultant in the Department of Therapeutics. Dr Batty had a particular interest in gastroenterology and the practice of gastroscopy. While in the Royal Army Medical Corps, he reached the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Dr Batty was elected to the Fellowship of the RCPE in 1940.

### WE BEER

Dr William Ernest Beer died on 10 December 1999. He was born on 5 July 1926 and graduated MB BS in 1950 at Madras. Dr Beer spent his internship years at the Christian Medical College Hospital, Vallore, South India and then joined Nilgiri Medical Mission Hospital as medical officer. In 1958 he came to London as clinical assistant and post-graduate student at St John's Hospital and two years later he was appointed Senior Registrar at the Dermatology Department, Westminster Hospital. Dr Beer moved to Wales in 1965 to take up the post of Consultant Dermatologist for Gwynedd Area Health Authority. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1982.

Dr Beer was elected to the Fellowship of the RCPE in 1976.

### H CHAI

Dr Hyman Chai died on 11 May 1995. He graduated MB ChB at Witwatersrand in 1943 and then practised in Bulawayo, Rhodesia. In 1951 Dr Chai gained a DCH in London and then MRCPE. Dr Chai emigrated to the United States in 1962 and was appointed Head of the Hospital Division at the Children's Asthma Research Institute in Denver where he was involved in research in pulmonary physiology, asthma, allergic disorders and the chest diseases of children. He also held the post of Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Dr Chai was elected to the Fellowship in 1972.

### CT CHAO

Professor Chao died in New York on Monday 21 February 2000 aged 65. He was a big-hearted man, a mentor to

many and a fatherly figure to all, famous for many achievements, although he did not set out to seek fame. He was humble; not boasting of nor praising himself.

He graduated MB BS (Hong Kong University) in 1961 and intended to be a surgeon. However a serious road accident in West Malaysia left him with a weak right arm (he was right-handed) and put paid to this ambition. It was with sheer determination and grit that he developed tremendous left-handed capability. Accompanied by the residual capability of his right arm he trained to be a forensic pathologist and obtained his diplomas in 1967.

Professor Chao was a giant in forensic pathology. His perseverance, training and experience made him world-renowned. He maintained that a forensic pathologist was a peculiar form of *Homo sapiens* combining three professions in one body - the knowledge of a medical doctor, the sharp eyes and instinct of Sherlock Holmes and the oratorical skills and confidence of a lawyer in court. Professor Chao attained the pinnacle of success in all three aspects.

He served with great distinction in many capacities including Master of the Academy of Medicine Singapore (1992-1995), President, the Singapore Society of Pathology (1987-1990), Governor, World Association of Medical Law (1987-1992) and Vice President, National Safety Council of Singapore. He was the founding Director of the Institute of Science and Forensic Medicine and special advisor there upon his retirement.

Professor Chao was elected to the Fellowship of this College in 1993.

### MP GOEL

Dr Mohan Prakash Goel died on 1 March. He was born on 16 August 1917 and graduated MB BS at Lucknow in 1939. Dr Goel joined the Army Medical Corps and held medical specialist appointments in India and Europe (Italy and Greece). In 1951 he graduated MD at Lucknow and the following year obtained the MRCPE. Dr Goel was appointed Adviser in Chest Diseases to the Armed Forces in 1953. He became Surgeon to the Chief of Army Staff and Staff Surgeon to Defence Headquarters in 1964 where he also had the responsibility for training specialists in medicine in the Armed Forces.

Dr Goel was elected a Fellow in 1966.

### AU KHAN

Dr Aman Ullah Khan died on 25 December 1999. He was born on 15 August 1929 and graduated MB BS at Karachi in 1954. After his houseman year, Dr Khan was appointed Demonstrator in Pathology at Dow Medical College, Karachi, and soon afterwards became Resident Medical

Officer at Karachi Civil Hospital. In 1957 Dr Khan came to Britain and worked as senior house officer, first in Great Yarmouth and then in Shrewsbury. During his stay in Britain, Dr Khan obtained a DCH in London and the MRCP in Edinburgh. He returned to Pakistan in 1963 and was appointed Consultant Physician at Holy Family Hospital, Karachi. A year later Dr Khan was back in Britain as Registrar in Geriatric Medicine at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. In 1967 he became Senior Registrar in Geriatric Medicine in Bournemouth and in 1969 was appointed Consultant Physician in Geriatric Medicine for the Salop area.

Dr Khan was elected to the Fellowship in 1979.

#### MA KEITH

Dr Marjory Anne Keith died on 5 October 1999. She was born on 1 May 1910. After gaining degrees in arts and education and working as a teacher for five years, Dr Keith graduated MB ChB in 1944 at Edinburgh University. In 1948 she was appointed Assistant Physician to the Bruntsfield and Elsie Inglis hospitals where she organised the antenatal clinic for the care of patients with cardiac and other medical complications of pregnancy. When the National Health Service was inaugurated, her appointment was graded Senior Registrar in Medicine. In 1949 Dr Keith also took a part-time general practice appointment for Edinburgh University Health Service. In 1955 she spent several months of study and research in Canada and the USA. Dr Keith's special interests were hypertension and diabetes. In 1956 she became Consultant Physician for the Bruntsfield and Elsie Inglis hospitals in Edinburgh.

Dr Keith became a Fellow of the RCPE in 1958.

#### GK LAXTON

Dr George Kenneth Laxton died on 17 December 1999. He was born on 24 January 1919 in Dewsbury, Yorkshire and graduated MB ChB in 1942 at Leeds University. After resident posts in Hull and Doncaster and two years as Medical Registrar at Leeds General Infirmary, Dr Laxton entered the Colonial Medical Service in Kenya. He returned to the UK in 1960 as Registrar and Locum Consultant in Geriatrics in Nottingham and a year later was appointed Consultant in Geriatrics at the Rugby and Coventry Group of Hospitals. Over the following decade Dr Laxton held consultant posts at Hull and East Riding Hospitals, the Isle of Man and finally Peterborough and Stamford Group of Hospitals. In 1976 he emigrated to Australia where he was appointed Geriatrician to Gippsland, Victoria and was responsible for providing geriatric services to 16 hospitals over the distance of 400 km. After a road accident in 1981, his duties were reduced to providing services to West Gippsland Hospital in Warragul.

Dr Laxton was elected to the Fellowship in 1982.

#### AMC LI

Dr Anita Ming-Cheng Li died on 8 December 1999. She was born on 14 December 1931 and first graduated BSc (Hons) from the University of Erskine, USA and

subsequently MB BS with distinctions in Hong Kong in 1962. Dr Li did her house officer jobs at Tsan Yuk Hospital and Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong. From 1964 to 1968 she held several registrar posts in Hong Kong and then spent a year on study leave in the United Kingdom. She gained a DCH in London in 1968 and the MRCP in Edinburgh in 1969. On her return to Hong Kong, Dr Li was appointed Lecturer at the Department of Paediatrics, Hong Kong University. She also became Paediatrician at Queen Mary Hospital and Paediatric Consultant at Tsan Yuk Maternity Hospital. Dr Li had an interest in haematology and in particular the thalassaemias. Dr Li became a Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Paediatricians in 1991 and a Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine in 1993.

Dr Li was elected to the Fellowship of this College in 1979.

#### TI MCBRIDE

Dr Thomas Ignatius McBride died on 15 February. He was born on 12 July 1934 in Paisley and graduated MB ChB at Glasgow University in 1958. Following three house appointments Dr McBride served in the Medical Unit of the Royal Air Force. In 1963 he was appointed Registrar at the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley. He moved to Glasgow Royal Infirmary a year later. Dr McBride prepared for his MD while working as a Research Physician at the Western Infirmary Hyperbaric Unit where he was involved in a study of changes in myocardial blood flow in different oxygen environments. He gained his MD in 1969 with Honours. In 1971, while on leave from the Western Regional Hospital Board, Dr McBride spent a year as Visiting Professor of Medicine at McMaster University, Ontario. In 1973 he returned to Scotland and took the post of Consultant Physician with special interest in chest diseases at the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1974 and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1982.

Dr McBride was elected a Fellow of the RCPE in 1975.

#### AM MERRIWEATHER

Dr Alfred Musgrave Merriweather died on 9 October 1999. He was born on 19 August 1918 and graduated MB ChB in 1941 at Edinburgh University. Dr Merriweather spent his houseman year at Deaconess Hospital before joining the Indian Medical Service. In 1944 he went to Bechuanaland, Botswana. He remained there until his death (except for short periods of study leave). In 1949 he was ordained Minister of the United Free Church of Scotland. Dr Merriweather was highly regarded in his community and acted as Speaker of the Bechuanaland Legislature Assembly. He gained the DTM&H in 1947 and in 1955 qualified MD Edinburgh. In 1960 he was awarded the CBE.

Dr Merriweather was elected to the Fellowship in 1966.

CS RATNATUNGA

Dr Creasy Selabhaya Ratnatunga died on 15 February. He was born on 14 November 1916 and graduated LMS at Sri Lanka in 1940. Dr Ratnatunga became a Medical Officer, Specialist Grade at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Colombo in 1957 and was appointed Physician there in 1963. He emigrated to the UK in 1967 and took the post of Senior Registrar at the London Hospital Department of Venereology. Later that year he became Consultant Venereologist and Physician in Charge at the Prince of Wales's General Hospital. In 1968 he was appointed Consultant Venereologist at Marlborough Clinic, the Royal Free Hospital and Teacher in Venereal Diseases at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine.

Dr Ratnatunga was elected a Fellow in 1971.

PEB RODGERS

Professor Pamela Elaine Bryan Rodgers died on 1 April 1999. She was born on 10 October 1930 and graduated MB BS at London in 1954. After a year as a house physician at the University College Hospital of the West Indies, she received a Glaxo Postgraduate Scholarship in 1956 and for the next three years worked in Maryfield Hospital in Dundee and then in Maida Vale Hospital, London. She then returned to the West Indies and joined the University College Hospital as a Senior Registrar. In 1964 she qualified MD, London and the following year was appointed Associate Lecturer at the University of the West Indies and Consultant Neurologist at the University Hospital.

After her marriage to His Excellency, the Hon. Keith Johnson OJ, Jamaica's Ambassador to Bonn, West Germany, she used the opportunity for exposure to German Neurology 1976 to 1980. When the Ambassador was transferred to Washington DC in 1980, her contact with

the N.I.H., through the kind instrumentality of Carlton Gajdusek, the Nobel prize winner, deepened her interest in Neurovirology. This complemented the research already in process by Professor Owen Morgan, Professor Barry Hanchard and others at the University of the West Indies, leading to the aetiological definition of Tropical Spastic Paraplegia as a Viral one, HTLV1. This is one of the landmark events of Tropical Neurology in the last 50 years.

She returned to the UWI in 1991, to the newly established chair of Experimental Medicine. Many honours and awards were received. She was regarded as one of the outstanding graduates of the first medical class of the UWI. She travelled widely and was a foundation member of the Association of Consultant Physicians and the Jamaica Neuroscience Association.

Professor Rodgers was elected to the Fellowship in 1971. She will be greatly missed.

GBR WARNOCK

Dr Gavin Baird Ross Warnock died recently. He graduated MB ChB at Edinburgh University in 1938 and then worked as a house physician in the Royal Infirmary and later as a Senior House Physician at Bangor Emergency Hospital. He joined the RAMC as Regimental Medical Officer in 1941 and was sent to the Middle East where he was made a Lieutenant Colonel and Specialist Pathologist. After returning to civilian life he worked as a Senior Clinical Tutor in the former Municipal Hospitals. In 1949 he was appointed Senior Medical Registrar to the Northern Hospital Group, Edinburgh and soon afterwards became Consultant Physician to the Tees-side Hospital Group in Yorkshire.

Dr Warnock was elected to the Fellowship in 1951.