



Jonathan Pritchard

Pioneer in childhood cancer

Jon Pritchard was a founder member of the United Kingdom Children's Cancer Study Group. He had a particular interest in kidney and liver tumours, as well as being a leading expert in Langerhans cell histiocytosis, found-

ing the Histiocyte Society. He was always willing to challenge perceived wisdom. He felt passionately about his patients and would never allow them to give up hope that a new treatment might help, but he always counselled them not to seek expensive treatments abroad, saying to desperate parents: "Do you think we doctors don't talk to each other?"

He wrote over 130 papers, and for many years was editor of the paediatric section of the *European Journal of Cancer*. He loved controversy, and set up the advanced paediatric oncology courses as an international forum for debate.

When training in Boston, Jon had come across Ronald MacDonald houses, which allowed parents to stay close by when their children were in hospital. On returning to London as consultant at Great Ormond Street in 1977 he set up the Sick Children's Trust, harnessing the energy of parents. The trust now has an annual income of £1.2m and provides houses connected to seven of the major children's centres across the United Kingdom. Similarly, he set up the Neuroblastoma Society, now a major national charity

funding projects all over the UK.

Early in his career at Great Ormond Street a patient was referred to him with a widely disseminated ovarian tumour. Conventional wisdom said that little could be done. Jon had just returned from a meeting in Turkey where he had heard that a new drug, cisplatin, was being used with promising results to treat ovarian cancer in adults. He managed to obtain some of it and used it for the first time (and successfully) in children.

Jon loved classical music and was a proficient photographer. Five of his pictures were published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and exhibited at the Royal College of Physicians in London. At Cambridge he captained the lacrosse team and played regularly for England. He enjoyed tennis and would always arrive at international meetings complete with racquet. His ability to write verse was extraordinary.

Alan Craft

Jonathan Pritchard, paediatric oncologist, Edinburgh (b 1942; q Cambridge/St Thomas's Hospital, London, 1966; FRCP), died from a brain tumour on 20 January 2007.



Robert Charles Ryder

Pathologist who identified emphysema as a danger to miners

Bob Ryder laid the foundation for compensation for ex-coal miners and coal miners' widows by showing that emphysema was directly caused by working in coal mines.

Previously, emphysema was thought to be found only in people who smoked, but as early as 1970 the research of Bob and his colleagues established a link between coal dust and emphysema.

Their findings were frequently cited by other researchers, and in 1993 emphysema became a recognised industrial disease, paving the way for a £7.5bn miners' compensation scheme that dealt with almost 300 000 claims.

Bob trained as a pathologist at the University Hospital of Wales, where he was pathology registrar and lecturer. He became consultant pathologist at St Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, before transferring to Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, on its opening in 1978. He was a visiting lecturer in pathology at the Welsh School of Medicine between 1979 and his retirement in 1999.

Bob was part of several teams and worked on 14 papers on matters relating to emphysema between 1966 and 1982. They included an analysis of the various types of emphysema, the methods of measuring

them, and their presence in coal workers' pneumoconiosis.

Despite a job that demanded clinical objectivity, Bob remained a compassionate man who was often touched by the suffering of others. He was also a pragmatist, although his expediency was sometimes funny. During his training in general practice, casually dressed, he made a house call to a wealthy man. He was taken into the kitchen by the man's wife and shown a vacuum cleaner. Noticing his perplexity, she said, "I take it that you've come to repair the vacuum cleaner, haven't you?" "No," he replied, "I'm the doctor, but if you take me upstairs to see what's wrong with your husband, I'll gladly have a shot at fixing the vacuum cleaner when I come down."

Bob leaves a wife, Julie, and six children, three of them by a previous marriage and one by an earlier association.

Gerard Kiley

Robert Charles Ryder, consultant pathologist, Merthyr Tydfil (b 1935; q University of Wales 1959; FRCPATH), died from aspiate pneumonia on 30 March 2007.

Ian Michael Bowles

Former general practitioner Woodbridge, Suffolk (b 1943; q Oxford/University College Hospital 1969; FRCP, DCH, DOBstRCOG), died from cancer of the oesophagus on 17 May 2007.

Ian Bowles kept faith with traditional general practice, often applying the scrutiny of a consultant physician to his patients, and encouraged this in his colleagues and students. Many colleagues remember his wit and enthusiasm during discussions. In particular, he also possessed a healthy scepticism towards protocols that were ill conceived and not based on good research. He was school medical officer at Woodbridge and the Abbey schools for 25 years and taught undergraduates from The London and University College Hospitals. His interests included sailing, rowing, cycling, singing, and badger watching, and many friends benefited from his excellent wine cellar. He leaves a wife, Christiane; two sons; and two grandchildren.

David Healey

Brian David Cooper



Former principal medical officer Isle of Wight prisons (b 1933; q Charing Cross 1958; CBE, DPM, FRCPsych), died from cryptogenic fibrosing alveolitis on 5 February 2007.

Brian David Cooper ("David") was born and attended grammar school on the Isle of Wight. For several years he was senior surgeon on the cruise liner *Canberra*. Later in the prison service he held a Winston Churchill travel fellowship to study the American penal system. He was sent, together with a High Court judge, to St Helena in the South

Atlantic to assess and have judged a serious problem offender, and he was a valued adviser and negotiator in various sieges and riots, having dealt with many notorious criminals. David retired prematurely after coronary artery bypass grafting, subsequently developing protracted lung disease. He never married.

D O Topp

Ivan Douglas Magill Nelson



Former community medicine specialist Hampshire Area Health Authority (b 1917; q Queen's University, Belfast, 1941; DPH, MFCM), died from left ventricular failure on 19 June 2007.

On qualifying Ivan Nelson served with the Royal Marines in Sri Lanka and India and as medical officer on HMS *Faulknor*. In 1957, after assistant and deputy medical officer of health (MOH) posts in Ilford, Dewsbury, and Brighton, he was appointed MOH in Barrow-in-Furness and dealt with Britain's first major nuclear accident. As MOH in Gosport in 1963, he set up one of the first community health centres in Hampshire to meet the needs of naval families. He was also lecturer in community medicine for the Royal Navy. Ivan moved to Hampshire Area Health Authority in 1974, retiring in 1979. He continued to work for the Hampshire Red Cross and as medical referee at Portchester crematorium. He leaves a wife, Davida; two sons; and three grandchildren.

David Nelson

Gwilym Hefin Roberts

Former consultant pathologist Southern General Hospital, Glasgow



(b 1929; q University of Wales 1952; MD, FRCPATH), died from a cerebrovascular accident on 12 March 2007.

Hefin had a lifelong interest in lung pathology, particularly asbestos-related mesothelioma. After his consultant appointment, he was awarded an MD for his postmortem study of asbestos-related lung disease among Clyde shipyard workers. Ultimately he became a member of the UK Mesothelioma Panel. Hefin was profoundly sceptical of academia, but he was an inspirational teacher to a generation of pathologists in the west of Scotland who had sat with him at the microscope as he puffed at his pipe. Having had insulin dependent diabetes for over 50 years, he was recently awarded the Alan Nabarro medal by Diabetes UK. He leaves a wife, Eirlys, and three children.

Richard Morton

Michael Schulz



Consultant in rehabilitation psychiatry Homerton, east London (b 1957; q Würzburg, Germany, 1983), died suddenly from heart disease on 30 September 2006.

Michael Schulz's psychiatric career began at the Max Planck Institute in Munich in 1985, followed by three years in a military hospital in Koblenz that made no distinction between neurology

and psychiatry—a fusion that characterised the remainder of his career. From 1997 he was head of neurology in Ueckermünde, and he came to England in 2003 to take a consultancy in rehabilitation psychiatry in London's east end. Here his warmth, wit, and leadership skills combined well with his meticulous approach to diagnosis and treatment. Over three years he revitalised a moribund department, overseeing its expansion into a highly successful community based service. Michael also loved painting and travel. He leaves a wife, Anke, and two children.

Mark Salter

William Whitaker



Former consultant physician Leeds General Infirmary (b 1919; q Leeds 1942; BSc Hons, MD, FRCP), d 14 January 2007.

After qualifying, William Whitaker ("Bill") entered the Royal Army Medical Corps for the duration of the second world war. On demobilisation he worked at the National Heart Hospital and then at the University of Sheffield as a lecturer in cardiology, which was still in its infancy. A unit of cardiac catheterisation was being set up at what became the Royal Northern General Hospital, and Bill was persuaded to add his expertise. In 1956 he transferred to Leeds General Infirmary. A past vice president of the Royal College of Physicians and a lifelong rugby fanatic, Bill loved nothing more than to go fishing. In 1984 he exchanged his stethoscope for a rod and his consulting rooms for the river bank. He leaves a wife, Elizabeth, and four children.

Elizabeth Whitaker