

OBITUARY

Contributions to this column must be submitted exclusively to the BMJ.

Sir ALAN PARKS MCh, FRCP, PRCS

Sir Alan Parks, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and consultant surgeon to St Mark's and the London hospitals, died on 3 November aged 61. He had suffered a myocardial infarct in Italy two weeks before and died after emergency cardiac surgery in London.

Alan Guyatt Parks was born on 19 December 1920. After education at Sutton High School and Epsom College he proceeded to Brasenose, Oxford, in 1939, graduating BA in 1943. He was due for enrolment at Guy's for clinical training but was one of a small wartime group selected for further training in America, becoming a Rockefeller student at Johns



Hopkins, Baltimore, in 1943. He was medical intern there and graduated MD in 1947 before returning to Guy's to complete his BM, BCh in the same year. He served as house surgeon to the late Sam Wass and Sir Heneage Ogilvie and passed the MRCP in the course of this appointment before becoming research assistant to Hedley Atkins for two years, during which period he took his final FRCS in 1949. There followed two years in the RAMC, when he was a graded surgeon and served in Malaya, Japan, and Korea. On returning home he was resident surgical officer at Putney and then registrar and senior registrar at Guy's from 1953 to 1959, having obtained his MCh in 1954.

Alan was an only child, and he himself believed that this had made it difficult for him to adjust socially though comparative solitude had left him time and opportunity to do many things that he might not otherwise have done. At an early age he developed a wide interest in crafts and hobbies, which he maintained throughout his life: his later attraction to surgery was largely attributable to his reverence for craftwork. He was head boy at Epsom and a competent athlete who earned his place in the rugby XV. Coming from a humble family, he felt deeply indebted to Epsom College for the start it gave him and was delighted to become one of its governors. At wartime Oxford, when blues were not awarded, he was captain of athletics and a forward in the university XV.

His hospital practice at St Mark's attracted large numbers of surgical trainees and established surgeons from all over the world, and his was a valuable second opinion on complex colorectal problems. He published many papers and was actively contributing up to the time of his death, most notably on the physiology and musculature of the pelvic floor in

relation to incontinence and on the use of the ileal reservoir with ileoanal anastomosis in the treatment of ulcerative colitis. He had a most original mind, and, though not all of his early ideas came to fruition, his controversial thoughts were a great stimulus to colleagues and trainees.

In addition to his demanding clinical commitments Sir Alan undertook an immense work load on behalf of the profession. Shortly after being elected to the council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1971 he became an honorary secretary of the Joint Consultants Committee and was elected chairman in the following year. Few but those closest to him realised how much time, energy, and personal expense he so conscientiously devoted to this work: for this and his seminal contributions to surgery he received the accolade of a knighthood in 1977. He was elected president of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1980 and had previously been Hunterian professor in 1965; he was to be Hunterian orator next year. He was consultant surgeon to the Army and had been president of the section of proctology at the Royal Society of Medicine, an examiner for Cambridge University, and chief medical adviser of BUPA.

It was in the practice of the art and craft of surgery that Alan felt most fulfilled, so that he

was all the more proud and delighted by the award in 1980 of the valuable and prestigious Ernst Jung prize in medicine in recognition of his signal contributions to colorectal surgery and physiology. In 1981 the University of Geneva awarded him the Nessim Habif prize and he was later awarded honorary fellowships of the Edinburgh, Australasian, and American colleges of surgeons and of the royal colleges of physicians and surgeons of Glasgow and Canada. He was corresponding member of the German Surgical Society, and honorary member of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, and, only a few days before the onset of his fatal illness was admitted to honorary fellowship of the Italian Surgical Society. His last official engagement at his own college was when he delivered the Cecil Joll prize lecture on "Science in surgery" at the annual meeting in Nottingham.

Alan could be a shy and reserved person who took a little getting to know; but once the ice was broken one quickly warmed to him. He was a man of complete integrity who set the highest standards for himself and those with whom he worked. He married Caroline Cranston, herself a medical graduate, and is survived by her and their three sons and one daughter. His wife was a loyal and devoted supporter throughout his professional life and especially of his work at the college.—RM.

A G CUDWORTH PHD, MD, FRCP

Professor A G Cudworth, consultant physician at St Bartholomew's and Hackney hospitals and a senior lecturer in the St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, died on 12 October of a cerebral tumour. He was 43.

Andrew Gordon Cudworth graduated MB, ChB at Liverpool in 1963, and was a house physician at Broadgreen Hospital. As a medical student he had joined the Army cadet scheme, and after his house jobs he signed on as a regular Army officer for five years on a short-service commission, rising to the rank of major. After returning to civilian life he continued as a Territorial and later—because the Army did not want to lose him—as an honorary Territorial officer. This start to his career gave him an experience of life and maturity of judgment that perhaps contributed later to his notable success as an organiser and administrator as well as a scientist. On leaving the Army he returned to Liverpool as a medical registrar, first at the David Lewis Northern Hospital and then at the Royal Infirmary, and later as senior registrar. In 1971 he obtained the MRCP. The turning point in his career came in 1972, when he was appointed a Nuffield research fellow at the University of Liverpool with a special grant to study the effect of drugs on insulin secretion. In 1973 he was appointed lecturer in the department of medicine, becoming senior lecturer in 1976; he obtained his consultant post at St Bartholomew's Hospital in 1977.

In the department of medicine at Liverpool Andrew became interested in the inherited basis of diabetes, and in 1977 he was awarded his PhD on work relating to genetic susceptibility in type I diabetes. He and Professor J C Woodrow, with another group in Copenhagen, independently and virtually simultaneously found an HLA marker that was associated with the severe, insulin-requiring form of diabetes. This discovery changed this formerly mysterious disease into one amenable to proper study. At Barts he realised that the exemplary childhood diabetic register established at and around Windsor by John Lister and his colleagues provided an opportunity for capitalising on his genetic work. For the first time it became possible to predict with virtual certainty which children in diabetic families were at risk. Thus he could watch the progress of the illness and find out the details of the autoimmune process by which the body turned on itself and destroyed the vital insulin-producing cells in its own pancreatic gland.

Andrew became in increasing demand as a speaker and organiser at international meetings and in 1980 was appointed editor in chief of *Diabetologia*. In 1982 the American Juvenile Diabetes Foundation awarded him its much coveted prize for his original discoveries while London University awarded him a personal chair in human metabolism. Although he was outstanding in research, he also took care of many patients, collaborating with David

Galton in the diabetic clinic at Barts. At Hackney he set up a model and comprehensive diabetic service, quickly establishing a reputation throughout London as a caring as well as a technically masterful clinician.

Andrew was a most gifted administrator, largely because he gained and kept the complete trust of all his colleagues. Within the splendid research group he built up there were never any unproductive arguments, and he took a close personal interest in everyone who worked with him. The respect and trust of his colleagues in the hospital and district were shown by his appointment last year as secretary of the Barts medical council and as chairman of the district medical division.

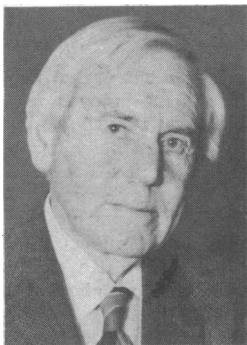
During his long and distressing illness Andrew's personal courage and inner resources became inspiringly apparent. A year ago he learnt that he had probably only months to live. He had always lived each day as if it was his last, and he seemed also to be possessed of almost superhuman equanimity; he never complained about his fate or mentioned it spontaneously to others. He is survived by his wife and family.—CAC, CJD.

D L DAVIES

CBE, DM, FRCP, FRCPSYCH, DPM

Dr D L Davies, emeritus physician to the Bethlem Royal and Maudsley hospitals, died on 24 October after a short illness. He was 71.

David Lewis Davies was born on 16 April 1911 and educated at Manchester Grammar School and St John's College, Oxford, graduating BM, BCh in 1936. He subsequently worked in physiology, general practice, and then psychiatry in both a civilian and a military capacity before joining the staff of the Maudsley Hospital on demobilisation in 1946. From 1950 to 1966 he was dean of the Institute of Psychiatry, at the most crucial stage of its evolution. During this difficult period he worked closely with the late Sir Aubrey Lewis to lay the foundations of the institution, which has been principally responsible for the post-war development of psychiatry in Britain and the model for many comparable centres elsewhere. In bringing to his arduous duties the experience, common sense, and fair mindedness that characterise the best medical ombudsmen he came to earn the respect, and often the affection, of senior and junior colleagues, including countless clinical assistants from overseas.



After laying down the burden of his administrative office Dr Davies was able to concentrate on his many other professional interests. Of these, the centrepiece was clinical psychiatry, of which he was a connoisseur's exponent, always distinguishing fact from speculation in diagnosis and never losing sight of Wilkie Collins's "whiff of actuality" in his approach to treatment. His clinical skills also incorporated research, principally into alcoholism but also ranging widely over such diverse topics as the somatic aspects of mental disease and the psychopathology of art.

Furthermore, his broad interpretation of postgraduate psychiatric education included a sense of responsibility for initiating and stimulating research in others, and several senior representatives of psychological medicine in this country began their academic careers under his guidance. After retirement he was a key figure at the Alcohol Education Centre and on the Medical Council on Alcoholism and an active member of the Attendance Allowance Board. Earlier this year he was awarded the CBE and an honorary fellowship of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Dr Davies was a man of rare quality, a quintessential Mancunian whose modest, quiet-spoken demeanour concealed a keen intellect and much worldly wisdom combined with a natural kindness and, at all times, a wry sense of humour. He is survived by his wife, who is a consultant anaesthetist, and three sons.—MS.

R T JENKINS

MB, BCH, FRCP, DCH

Dr R T Jenkins, formerly senior paediatrician to the West Glamorgan group of hospitals, died peacefully at home in Morriston on 10 October aged 67.

Ritchie Teify Jenkins was born in St Nicholas, near Cardiff, on 8 March 1915 and was educated at Barry County School before proceeding to the Welsh National School of Medicine, where he graduated BSc in 1937 and MB, BCh in 1940. After house appointments in the Cardiff Royal Infirmary he was appointed resident medical officer there and in 1942 became medical registrar to the newly opened Emergency Medical Services hospital at Morriston. He obtained the MRCP and DCH and in 1948, at the inception of the NHS, was the first consultant paediatrician to be appointed by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board to the Gwent group of hospitals. He was elected FRCP in 1971.

In his early days at Morriston Dr Jenkins was the only consultant paediatrician in the whole of west Wales, and his responsibilities extended over a vast area. He built up the department of paediatrics from a few beds to the present highly regarded unit. A gifted clinical teacher, he enjoyed this part of his work, as evidenced by the number of his teaching sessions; his students left the department with a thorough knowledge and understanding of the principles of paediatrics.

A keen sportsman, Ritchie was captain of the medical school soccer XI, which he led with considerable success. Interest in sport of all kinds was high on his list of priorities all his life—he seldom missed a test match (never one at Lord's) and was to be seen at the Arms Park, Cardiff, on any big occasion. A magistrate for Swansea city for many years, he became chairman of the Monday bench of magistrates, taking a special interest in the work of the juvenile courts.

Ritchie had no time for the pompous, the hypocritical, or the dishonest; he will be remembered as a man of integrity, generosity, and great personal charm. He is survived by his wife Joy, also a doctor, who was a great support to him, and by his only son Huw, who has embarked on a career in paediatrics.—IRLE.

WRF writes: Ritchie Jenkins was a man of compassion and humanity and always found time for his patients despite a heavy work

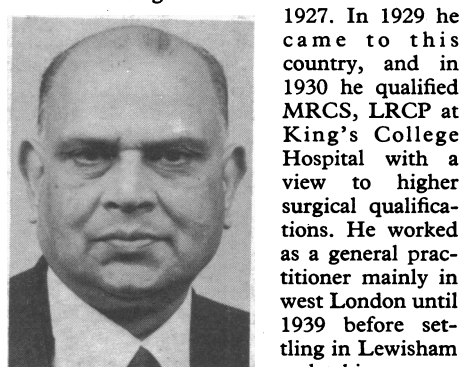
load. He had a lifelong interest in cardiology and was responsible for setting up the first special-care baby unit in west Wales. He will be remembered by generations of house doctors and visiting students for his clinical judgment and clear, humorous teaching. His seminars and study days for local practitioners were extremely popular and well attended. "Dr Ritchie" was a warm and friendly man; he had a smile and a greeting for all hospital workers and thoroughly deserved his gentlemanly reputation. He had been an enthusiastic cricketer in his younger days and turned out for the hospital team: a needle match was the annual visit of the team from the Cardiff department of child health. When time allowed he followed his interests of gardening and golf.

K C SARKAR

MB, MRCS, LRCP, MRCP

Dr K C Sarkar, a general practitioner in Lewisham until his retirement in 1974, died on 13 October shortly after being admitted to Lewisham Hospital after a third heart attack. He was 80.

Kiran Chandra Sarkar was born in Bengal in 1902 and graduated MB in Calcutta in 1927. In 1929 he came to this country, and in 1930 he qualified MRCS, LRCP at King's College Hospital with a view to higher surgical qualifications. He worked as a general practitioner mainly in west London until 1939 before settling in Lewisham and taking over a large list at Catford and a smaller practice at Bromley. He passed the primary examination of the FRCS in 1936 and obtained the MRCP in 1965.



Dr Sarkar was a skilled practitioner who was much respected and loved. He is survived by his wife and son.—LVR.

Dr Sarkar was a skilled practitioner who was much respected and loved. He is survived by his wife and son.—LVR.

G W WILLCOX

MD

Dr G W Willcox, formerly a general practitioner in Brighton, died suddenly on 13 September aged 78. He was the eldest son of Sir William Willcox, a physician to St Mary's Hospital and a well-known medicolegal expert of his time.

Gerald William Willcox was educated at Oundle School; Emmanuel College, Cambridge; and St Thomas's Hospital, qualifying MRCS, LRCP and MB, BChir in 1928. After several resident hospital appointments, one of which was at the Royal Sussex County Hospital at Brighton, he started in general practice at Crowborough in Sussex. For three years or so before the war he served in Nyasaland as medical officer to the Imperial Tobacco Company, having care of a large labour force employed in railway construction and gaining useful experience of the diseases of that country. He was later elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine. Early in the war he joined the RAMC and served in

France, returning at the time of the Dunkirk retreat. He was later invalided out of the Service on account of disability arising from ankylosing spondylitis contracted in his late 20s, which he fought against for the rest of his life with astonishing fortitude and determination.

Dr Willcox proceeded MD at Cambridge in 1944 and returned to general practice in Sussex, first at Billingshurst and later at Steyning and Brighton. For the last 20 years or so he was physically unable to stand the strain of full-time general practice for long periods but was always in great demand assisting general practitioners. It was on a visit to a local surgery that he died at the wheel of his car, fortunately without injury to others. His career was a good example of how a man may overcome a severe physical handicap and earn a living for over 50 years in medical practice. This he did with exemplary courage and sense of duty, and he was held in great affection by patients and colleagues.

For most of his life Dr Willcox was unable to enjoy the recreations of his youth—cricket, tennis, and golf—but he enjoyed sea fishing. A lover of animals and birds, he was a keen supporter of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. He once rescued an oiled guillemot he found on the beach at Brighton and kept it for over a year as a pet. He regularly took it to the beach for a swim until the last occasion, when it swam out to sea and never returned.

Dr Willcox is survived by his wife Doreen, to whom he owed so much for her devoted care for many years.—PW.

D C THOMAS

MB, BS

Dr D C Thomas, formerly a general practitioner in Solihull, died on 8 October after a short illness. He was 90.

Donald Carmichael Thomas was born on 5 December 1891 and was educated at Haileybury, where he was a classical scholar, and at St Thomas's Hospital, where he qualified MRCS, LRCP in 1915. He served in the RAMC and after his discharge obtained the MB, BS in 1919. He joined a general practice at Solihull and retired in 1948, just before the advent of the NHS.

Dr Thomas is on record as saying that on retirement "I am going to be the nicest old man that anybody has met. I have met so many nasty ones." He certainly lived up to this resolution. For the last 16 years he lived with his daughter in Langport, Somerset; she survives him, as do his son, six grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.—PWH.

YVONNE J BRADFIELD

MB, BS, LRCP, MRCS

Dr Yvonne J Bradfield, a general practitioner in Fulham, died suddenly on 3 October at the Charing Cross Hospital after a brain haemorrhage. She was 56.

Yvonne Jean Bradfield was educated at Notting Hill and Ealing High School and graduated in medicine at the Royal Free Hospital, London, in 1950. Although she married just after graduating, she chose to continue in the chosen branch of the profession—general practice—under her maiden name. She was the first in her family to become a doctor, and she concentrated from the start

on being a GP. She practised in Fulham for 30 years, becoming the senior partner of the practice 28 years ago.

Totally dedicated and with surgeries that kept her in daily contact with patients across the entire social and racial spectrum, Dr Bradfield devoted 99% of her effort to the NHS. She lived for her patients, and her sole recreation was in not letting any "do-it-yourself" problem defeat her. Diminutive in size, she would not consider anything to be impossible if a man could do it. Her patients greatly appreciated her, and she treated them as "her family."

Dr Bradfield is survived by her daughter Yvette, who to her delight qualified four years ago at the Charing Cross Hospital. Regrettably, she was denied what she most looked forward to—years of retirement and the pleasure of her grandson Mark's company.—DWB.

W R WARD

TD, MB, BS, FRF

Dr W R Ward, formerly consultant radiotherapist at Mount Vernon Hospital and the Radium Institute, died on 20 June. He was 82.

William Roy Ward (John to many of his friends) entered St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School in 1916 and graduated in 1923. In 1917 he joined the RNVR and served in HMS *Ithuriel* as a surgeon sub-lieutenant. After house jobs at Barts he became resident midwifery assistant there. This was followed by an appointment as resident medical officer to the London Radium Institute, where he became director in 1930, an appointment he held until the outbreak of war. He was a keen Territorial Army officer, being medical officer to the Honourable Artillery Company for 13 years. During the war he initially commanded the 13th (4th London) general hospital at Hatfield House, but thereafter, after a short period in Northern Ireland, he spent the rest of the war in the Middle East, finally commanding No 1 general hospital in Egypt.

After the war Roy returned to Mount Vernon and the Radium Institute as consultant radiotherapist to the North-west Metropolitan Hospital Board until his retirement in 1964. He continued in the Territorial Army, being appointed honorary surgeon to the Queen in 1952, and deputy director of medical services of the Anti-Aircraft Command (ACAC) Brigade in 1954 with the rank of brigadier. He was honorary colonel of the 10th (London) general hospital TA 1953-8 and adviser to the director-general of Army Medical Services 1956-60. In 1953 he was made an officer brother of the Venerable Order of St John.

Roy Ward was secretary and vice-president of the radiology section of the Royal Society of Medicine and for many years served on the Armed Forces Committee of the BMA. A pioneer in radiotherapy, he was devoted to his work and to his patients. He wrote many definitive papers and was joint author of

Recent Advances in Radium (1933). He loved riding and looked forward to his retirement so that he could ride to hounds again. Ill health prevented this, but he was able to enjoy his other passion of gardening, roses being his real joy. His modesty and cheerfulness made him many friends, particularly during the war. Above all, he remained a Barts man, continuing as an active member of the Rahere Lodge and Fountain Club until soon after retirement.

In 1927 Dr Ward married Alice Anita Marjorie Thomas, who died in 1980. He is survived by two daughters and a son, who practises medicine.—RHTW.

E R G KIRKPATRICK

MB, CHM, FRCSED

Mr E R G Kirkpatrick, formerly a consultant surgeon at Perth Royal Infirmary, died on 6 October aged 82.

Edward Roger Graham Kirkpatrick was born near Sydney, Australia, on 18 February 1900 and studied medicine at the University of Sydney, graduating in 1924. After working in general practice he moved to Scotland in 1930 and embarked on a career in surgery, obtaining the FRCSED in 1932. He continued his career in Perth as resident surgical officer and in a few years became consultant surgeon to Perth Royal Infirmary, holding this post with distinction until his retirement in 1966.

Mr Kirkpatrick had a quiet and kindly personality and possessed outstanding surgical skill, which earned the gratitude of innumerable patients throughout his long career. His colleagues greatly valued his friendship and support. He was past president of the Perth Branch of the BMA, and he enjoyed many years of pleasure and interest with the Travelling Surgical Club, visiting many centres abroad with them. Apart from his work his main interest was golf. For many years he was a member of the Royal and Ancient, Blairgowrie Golf Club, and the Senior Golfers' Society. He was a past captain of Royal Perth Golfing Society and honorary president of the Perth Medical Golfing Society.

Mr Kirkpatrick married late in life, in 1969, but his wife died some four years later. He is survived by two brothers, one of whom lives in North Berwick, Scotland, and the other in Australia.—FMS.

ELEANOR ZAIMIS

MD, FRCP

GAHB writes: Professor Zaimis (obituary, 30 October, p 1280) made many important contributions to pharmacology and always considered the effect of her work on clinical therapeutics. Perhaps her most important contribution was made at the National Institute in collaboration with Sir William Paton. In investigating the methonium series of drugs they found that hexamethonium blocked the vasoconstrictor cholinergic impulses at the sympathetic ganglia but had little or no action at the myoneural junctions of skeletal muscles. This provided the first practical drug treatment for hypertension and led to the development of other drugs that proved most useful for treating this distressing condition. She was a most enthusiastic pharmacologist as well as an organic chemist and had a great facility for stimulating the research interests of her students.

