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OBITUARIES

John Swanson Beck

Former professor of pathology Dundee University (b 1928; q Glasgow 1953; DSc, MD, FRCPath), d 28 January 2007.

The outstanding medical graduate of his year, John Beck became one of a small group of Scottish medical scientists committed to taking pathology from morbid anatomy towards an understanding of the diagnosis and treatment of disease. He established the importance of antibodies directed against the body's own tissues. Dedicated to the delivery of diagnostic services in the north and east of Scotland, and to the teaching of undergraduates, John was also active in review committees, including the Chief Scientist's Office. In his retirement during 1993-7 he was foundation dean and chief executive of the International Medical College in Kuala Lumpur. On returning to Scotland, John served as programme convener of the Royal Society of Edinburgh until 2003. He leaves a wife, Marion; two children; and three grandchildren.

John P Arbuthnott

John Brittain



Former general practitioner Warlingham, Surrey (b 1923; q St Mary's Hospital 1952; MD, AFOM, DIH), died after a short illness caused by stroke and coronary thrombosis on 23 October 2006.

Jack Brittain served as an intelligence officer in the army during the second world war, after which he entered St Mary's Hospital

Medical School. He came to a singlehanded practice at Hamsey Green in Warlingham, Surrey, in 1953 after appointments at several hospitals. Later in his life Jack's interests included orthopaedic and occupational medicine, and he was fleet medical officer for a large shipping line. Jack was a true Christian. He leaves a wife, Sheila; three children; and six grandchildren.

Benjamin Anthony Gwynne Jenkins



Former consultant physician Royal Cornwall Hospital (Treliske), Truro (b 1919; q St Bartholomew's Hospital 1942; MD, FRCP), died from brain stem stroke on 5 February 2007. As a student, Gwynne served in the City's casualty clearing stations during the London Blitz and after qualifying was commissioned into the Royal Air Force. He came to Cornwall in 1951 as one of the new generation of consultants with combined training in general medicine and chest disease. He represented Cornwall on the regional hospital board and the consultants' appointments committee. He also gave time to teaching junior medical staff long before mandatory postgraduate teaching, and his efforts are still remembered. Larger than life, Gwynne loved good food, yachting, and cars. Predeceased by his wife, Mair, in 2005, he leaves two children and five grandchildren. **Edward Hughes**

Harold Ian Jory



Former consultant radiologist Queen Elizabeth II and Hertford County Hospitals, general practitioner Hertford (b 1926; q Oxford/St George's Hospital, London, 1950; TD, DMRD, FRCGP), died from multiple myeloma on 15 February 2007. Harold Jory ("HIJ"), having been head of school at Malvern College, won a scholarship to Brasenose College, Oxford. Joining the army for his national service he served in Korea from 1951 to 1952 as company commander of 21 Field Ambulance Unit. In 1957 he entered general practice in Hertford, retiring in 1987; he was also consultant radiologist from 1961 to 1994. A town councillor for Hertford (1963-5), he was elected master of the Worshipful Company of Salters (1976-7). He leaves a wife, June; three children; and three grandchildren. A service of thanksgiving will be held in the city of London in July. William Jory

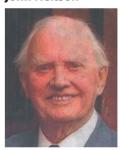
Frank McLaren McGown

Former consultant physician Oldchurch Hospital, Romford (b 1915; q Cambridge/The London 1939; MD, FRCP), died from bronchopneumonia on 8 December 2006.

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Frank McGown served in the Royal
Naval Volunteer Reserve, rising to
surgeon lieutenant commander and
seeing action in Atlantic convoys and
the Normandy landings. In 1954 he
was appointed consultant physician
at Oldchurch Hospital, where he
developed a special interest in
gastroenterology. Frank raised the

funds and supervised the plans for one of the earliest postgraduate centres in a district hospital. Opened in 1967, it was a centre of excellence under his guidance as clinical tutor. On his retirement he was honoured by an afternoon of scientific papers from five of his former registrars. In retirement Frank lived out his Christian faith in supporting his village church and the Friends of Essex Churches. Predeceased by a son, he leaves a wife, three children, and seven grandchildren. John Billinghurst

John Neilson



Former consultant surgeon and medical director Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, Dumfries (b 1913; q Glasgow 1937; FRCS), d 21 December 2006.

John Neilson helped "brief" James Robertson Justice for his memorable portrayal of Sir Lancelot Sprat in the "Doctor" comedy films, although the difference between the real surgeon and the fictional character could not have been more marked. John always had the time to help, advise, and train his junior staff at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, where he was a locum for three weeks in 1942 and stayed for more than 30 years. As medical director he rebuilt the old infirmary. John was a lifelong supporter of St Andrew's Ambulance Association. He remained sprightly, swimming most mornings at the local health club. He leaves a second wife, Elise, and three children from his first marriage.

David Clow, Emma Clow, Laura Clow

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