OBITUARIES

**Thomas Anthony**

Former general practitioner Galashiels, Scottish Borders (b 1922; q Edinburgh 1949), died from complications after hip fractures on 26 August 2011.

Thomas Anthony ("Tom") was a family doctor whose special interest and skill in obstetrics were invaluable as in those days the Borders had no specialist obstetrics unit. He also held a permanent post in the geriatric assessment department at the Sanderson Hospital. A shrewd medical politician, Tom represented Borders GPs on the Scottish Executive Committee before the creation of Borders Health Board. From 1974 until retiring in 1986, he was secretary of the area medical committee and was elected a fellow of the BMA. He leaves his wife, Mollie; two sons; and a daughter.

Bob Johnston

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6738

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**Amir A F Azmy**

Former consultant paediatric urological surgeon Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Yorkhill, Glasgow (b 1939; q Alin Shams University, Cairo, 1963; DS, FRCS (Ed, Eng, Glas)), died from metastatic prostate cancer 10 March 2011.

Amir A F Azmy first came to the UK in 1970 where he developed an interest in paediatric urology as his career choice. He took up his consultant post at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Yorkhill in 1980. In the later part of his career, he was an invited guest and lecturer in many international centres and served in various professional bodies. Amir always felt a strong debt of gratitude to Egypt and regularly worked there without recompense during his annual leave. He is survived by his wife, Fatima Mohsen; a daughter; a son; and two grandchildren.

Iman Azmy, Peter Raine, Alasdair Fyfe

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6745

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**Francis William Beswick**

Former principal medical officer Chemical Defence Establishment, Porton Down (b 1926; q Cardiff 1949; CSJ, PhD), d 11 January 2011.

Francis William Beswick ("Frank") won a scholarship to study medicine and medals in anatomy and physiology. After service as medical officer in the Royal Air Force in Egypt, he eventually became senior lecturer in Cardiff University Physiology Institute and did research in cardiac physiology. In 1966 he moved to Porton Down, heading the medical division during evaluation of agent CS in Northern Ireland. Frank was recognised in the UK and US as the authority on treatment after exposure to chemical weapons, investigating, for example, the Georgi Markov umbrella murder. In 1979 he led work to rehabilitate Gruinard Island after contamination with anthrax in the 1940s. Frank was also a senior figure in ST John Ambulance. He leaves a wife, Rhona, and three sons.

Robert Maynard, J Gareth Jones Francis W Beswick

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6425

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**Martin Avigdor Birnstingl**

Former consultant vascular surgeon St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London (b 1924; q St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London, 1946, FRCS, MS), d 21 January 2011.

A respected surgeon, Martin Avigdor Birnstingl was president of the Vascular Surgical Society, author of *Peripheral Vascular Surgery* (1973), and an inspired teacher. An enthusiastic sailor, walker, and skier, he was also multilingual and a talented musician with an immense knowledge of literature and passionate views on human rights that frequently brought him into conflict with governments. He reported the atrocities he witnessed in Hanoi in 1967 during the American bombing of North Vietnam, and on the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in the Lebanon in 1982. In 2007 he spoke out about medical ethical violations in Gaza, and at the time of his death was active in trying to reopen the David Kelly case. These ideals he shared with architect Renate Prince, his partner for 50 years.

John Lumley

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6445

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**Maxwell Caplin**

Former consultant chest physician London (b 1917; q London 1940; LRCP, MRCs, FCRP, OBE), d 31 July 2011.

Born to Jewish immigrant parents in the East End of London, Maxwell Caplin worked as a casualty officer during the Blitz and served in the Middle East, India, and Burma, where he became interested in chest diseases. As consultant chest physician to the London Chest Hospital and Bethnal Green Hospitals, his interests were tuberculosis and the management of chronic bronchitis and lung cancer. He set up Caplin House, a refuge for homeless patients with TB. He retired from hospital practice in 1982 but continued to work as occupational health physician to the age of 74. He received the OBE for services to disabled people. In his early 90s he developed Lewy body dementia. His wife, Nancy, predeceased him by 11 years. He is survived by a son, two daughters, and seven grandchildren.

John Caplin

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6558

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**Barron Bruce MacGillivray**

Former dean Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine (b 1927; q Manchester 1955; FRCP), d 17 December 2010.

South African born, Barron Bruce MacGillivray ("Bruce") studied medicine in Johannesburg until 1951, when, unhappy about apartheid, he moved to Britain and qualified from Manchester. After registrar and senior registrar posts at the National Hospital Queen Square, he graduated with an external London MB BS and became consultant clinical neurophysiologist at the Royal Free and National Hospitals. As dean of the Royal Free during 1975-89, he successfully fought merger plans and united the school on one site. He also balanced its budgets and increased research income, latterly by promoting commercialisation of the school's intellectual property. Popular with students and highly regarded by colleagues for creating a happy school, Bruce was also artistic and a qualified pilot. He leaves a wife, Ruth; three children; and four grandchildren.

Neil McIntyre

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6420

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Nigel Jordan

Former consultant neurologist, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, and medical director, Lundbeck (b1959; q Nottingham University 1983; BMedSci, BM BS, DM, FRCP), died from glioblastoma multiforme on 12 June 2011.

Nigel Jordan trained in neurology in Sheffield and Newcastle. As senior registrar at Newcastle, he found his career interrupted when he developed a cerebral glioma. As a result he retrained, becoming senior lecturer in neurorehabilitation at the University of Newcastle. He remained well and returned to neurology, being invited to apply for a consultant post in Sheffield where he worked until his premature retirement. He established one of the first multidisciplinary teams for patients with multiple sclerosis.

Latterly he was appointed medical director of Lundbeck, where he was appreciated for his expertise and unconventional attitude. He leaves his wife, Louise; and two sons.

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6744

Robin Steel

Former general practitioner Worcester (b 1932, q University College London 1956; FRCP, FRCPsych, MBE), died from Parkinson’s syndrome on 18 June 2011.

Robin Steel started his career in psychiatry and worked in the Royal Air Force before returning to Worcester in 1963 to become a general practitioner. He was also a local police surgeon, joined the local medical committee, and was active in the BMA and the Royal College of General Practitioners. During the 1990s he was a medical member of the General Medical Council. The RCGP’s Midland Faculty Board recognised his contribution by launching the annual Robin Steel vocational training award. In 1987 he received the MBE for services to medicine. After retiring he developed prostate cancer, Parkinson’s syndrome, and Lewy body dementia. He leaves his wife, Kathleen; a son; two daughters; and seven grandchildren.

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6560

Anne Bryson Sutherland

Former consultant plastic surgeon Bangour Hospital, West Lothian, and Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh (b 1922; q Edinburgh 1951; MD FRCSEd, BA), d 27 March 2011.

Anne Bryson Sutherland became interested in plastic surgery during her time as a junior hospital doctor. She spent her career working in the NHS. In administrative charge of the burns unit, she undertook the full range of plastic surgery except for more specialised procedures and private or cosmetic surgery. She also played a prominent part in learned bodies and was in great demand as a speaker at international events.

She enjoyed travelling, hockey, tennis and skiing, entertaining guests, and music.

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6741

Margaret Taylor

Former paediatrician South Tyneside, (b 1933; q Bristol 1957; DCH, FRCP, FRCPC), d 6 April 2011.

Before studying medicine at Bristol, Margaret Taylor cycled all over Europe with a friend. She did postgraduate training at the Royal Free and Great Ormond Street before being appointed at a young age to a consultant post in South Tyneside. She was called on to examine children involved in the Cleveland sexual abuse controversy, which led on to her being a founder member of the women paediatricians’ forensic network. After finishing work she became involved in her local church and reignited her passion for travelling. She also joined the University of the Third Age. She is survived by her son.

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6743

David John Turner

Former consultant anaesthetist James Paget Hospital, Gorleston (b 1935; q Cambridge 1954; MA, MD, FRCS), d 26 August 2011.

After qualifying David Turner followed the nomadic life of a junior doctor until his appointment to consultant anaesthetist, serving the then five hospitals of the Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth area. He fought for the development of local services as separate entities from those in Norwich. David chaired the project team for the building of a new hospital on the coast. This culminated in the opening of the James Paget Hospital in 1981. He was also instrumental in setting up pain relief services there. David retired in 1996.

Cite this as: BMJ 2011;343:d6742

OBITUARIES