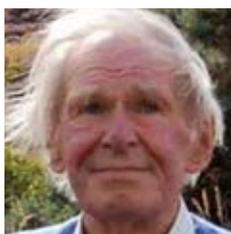


William Keith Cowan



Histopathologist (b 1926; q Liverpool 1950; MD, FRCP Edin, FRCPath, PhD), d 2 March 2014.

William Keith Cowan ("Bill") was initially attracted to internal medicine but later turned to histopathology. A period in Lauren Ackerman's department at Barnes Hospital, St Louis, USA, in 1962-63 fired an enthusiasm for surgical pathology that never left him. He was appointed consultant pathologist to the Gateshead group of hospitals in 1965 and was an honorary lecturer in pathology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. After retiring from his full time work, he focused on breast cancer, and, while retaining honorary positions at Gateshead and Newcastle, he studied screen detected breast cancers and gained a PhD in his 69th year. Passionate both in his commitment to the NHS and in his love of Shakespeare, he wished "I have done the state some service" to be his only epitaph.

Kate White

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;348:g2465

Geoffrey Donald Oates



Surgeon, first president of the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland (b 1929; q 1953; FRCS), d 2 November 2013.

Geoffrey Donald Oates ("Geoff") combined his roles of consultant surgeon and senior clinical lecturer at the University of Birmingham with a six year spell as chairman of the division of surgery of the United Birmingham Hospitals. His formative years in surgical training prompted

a lifelong interest in the treatment of cancer, and he spent a year at the University of Illinois, Chicago, USA, as a research fellow and instructor in surgery. One of the first surgeons in England to introduce the concept of "surgical oncology," he was passionate in pursuit of optimal surgery and multidisciplinary care for patients, long before the concept of such care evolved. Predeceased in 1971 by his first wife, Mollie, he leaves Liz, whom he married in 1973, and two children from his marriage to Mollie.

Bill Heald,

Brendan Moran

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;348:g2464

Francis Iorwerth Powell



Former general practitioner (b 1923; q Cardiff 1947), d 14 February 2014.

Francis Iorwerth Powell ("Frank") worked at Cardiff Royal Infirmary in the orthopaedic and accident and emergency departments from 1947 to 1949. He then did national service with the Royal Army Medical Corps at the Cambridge Military Hospital in Aldershot. Having returned to Wales he worked at Swansea General Hospital until 1952, when he started general practice in Garnant, Carmarthenshire, where he practised for more than 50 years. Clinical assistant in obstetrics and general surgery at the Amman Valley Hospital for decades, he later became clinical assistant in geriatrics at the same hospital. In 1970 he gained his diploma in medical jurisprudence and was employed as police surgeon with Dyfed Powys police for 36 years. He retired in his late 80s. He leaves Muriel, his wife of 66 years; three children; seven grandchildren; and four great grandchildren.

Ffion Haf Mackey

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;348:g2462

Elizabeth Pryce-Jones



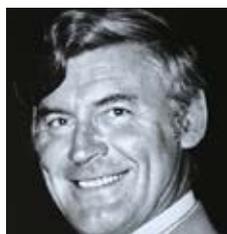
Former consultant community paediatrician Merton and Sutton NHS Community Trust (b 1924; q Leeds; DCH RCP, FRCPCH), died from cerebrovascular disease on 21 February 2014.

Elizabeth Pryce-Jones (known to her colleagues as "PJ") was an astute diagnostician with a somewhat unconventional view of medicine. Her referral letters were legendary and would by today's standards be considered non-PC, but they gave an accurate and meaningful picture of the circumstances underlying her small patients' problems, crucial to understanding the child and the family's needs. Having moved from Leeds to London to the Belvedere Hospital, she married Henry Bunje, a physician, shortly afterwards. The couple spent three years in Jamaica. On returning to the UK she began a lifetime career in paediatrics. PJ spent the early years of retirement mainly looking after her ailing husband, who died in 2005. She leaves two sons, a daughter, and two grandchildren.

Ann South

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;348:g2461

Alan Eastling Ridley



General practitioner (b 1927; q Newcastle upon Tyne 1954; DObst RCOG, MRCP), died from cancer of the prostate and Alzheimer's disease on 28 September 2013.

Alan Eastling Ridley did his junior doctor training in general practice and maternity. He eventually started in general practice in Tynemouth Front Street and North Shields. He went on

to become a highly respected and hugely liked doctor in his community and was the medical practitioner for the Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade. Alan's ideal day was a surgery in the morning, followed by some home visits, with a quick nine holes and some lunch, before afternoon and evening surgeries. Alan married Vera in 1963, and they had a daughter, Jane. In 1974 Alan married Joan, and they were married for 37 years, until she died two years ago. He leaves his daughter and three grandsons.

Jane Pooley

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;348:g2460

Madeleine Sharp



Former general practitioner and peace campaigner (b 1921; q Durham 1953; MBE), d 7 January 2014.

As a general practitioner, Madeleine Sharp spent 30 years working for the same practice near Coventry city centre that she had joined shortly after qualifying. Her interest and knowledge of maternity care in particular attracted pregnant women's registrations from all over Coventry, at a time when practice boundaries were often a deterrent to travel any distance. During her long life she joined numerous social justice campaigns as a peace campaigner and defender of the poor. From 1965 she became best known for her aid work for the charity Medical and Scientific Aid to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia (MSAVLC) and was honoured with an MBE in 2001. In 2013 the president of the Royal College of General Practitioners wrote to her in recognition of her contribution as a GP in Coventry and towards human rights and humanitarian causes. Close friends cared for her at home in her last months. Her funeral was attended by more than 200 friends.

John Middleton,

David Fish

Cite this as: BMJ 2014;348:g1959