

William Stewart Hillis

Pioneer in sports science, and doctor to the Scottish football team

Emeritus professor in cardiology and sport and exercise medicine (b 1943; q Glasgow University, 1967; OBE, FRCPS Glas), died from mesothelioma on 21 July 2014.

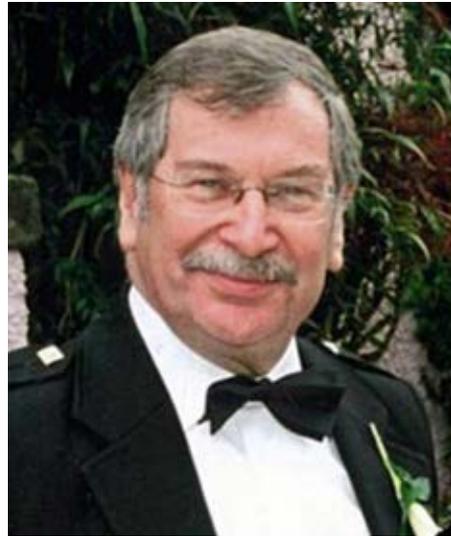
Stewart Hillis had been actively involved in the preparation for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. He was diagnosed as having mesothelioma in May and continued to work till mid-June. He died two days before the opening ceremony.

Stewart was born in Clydebank, the son of a foreman at John Brown's shipyard, two years after the town was devastated in the Blitz during the second world war. He was educated in Clydebank and at Glasgow University.

During his early postgraduate training with Gavin Shaw, he became interested in cardiology and in 1971 was appointed registrar in the University of Glasgow's cardiology department with Professor T D V Lawrie. His career progressed rapidly. He showed considerable talent in invasive investigations, and that became a distinguishing feature of his career. After spending a year at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, he was appointed consultant cardiologist to Glasgow's Stobhill Hospital in 1977. It was there that he began pivotal studies in relation to intracoronary and intravenous thrombolysis. He converted the back area of the critical care unit into a coronary angiographic facility and set up a 24/7 service that allowed assessment of artery patency after thrombolytic therapy. This work contributed substantially to the understanding of thrombolysis and was the groundwork for the beneficial use of these agents in acute myocardial infarction.

In 1982 Stewart was appointed to the post of senior lecturer in the University of Glasgow's Department of Materia Medica, although he continued his full time commitment as a consultant cardiologist. He subsequently became a reader and was awarded a personal chair in cardiovascular and exercise medicine in 1997. He served the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow well as an examiner and organiser of educational events.

Most cardiologists have one subspecialist interest. Stewart Hillis had several: intervention, academic research, clinical pharmacology, exercise and sports medicine, and adult congenital heart disease. He was a gifted teacher and trained a considerable number of



the current cardiology consultant workforce in Scotland and beyond.

His contribution to the subject of adult congenital heart disease was remarkable in that he was in his 50s when he took on this daunting challenge. Many patients had undergone lifesaving operations as children and had other health and learning challenges, as well having to make the difficult transition from the protected environment

William Stewart Hillis used humour—usually directed against himself—to great effect and received many invitations throughout Scotland to speak on his sports medicine experiences

of a children's hospital to the less personal adult hospital. They were, in a sense, lost, and their parents also felt lost. Stewart had run the service at Yorkhill Hospital and then led the initiative to form a national adult congenital heart disease service at the Golden Jubilee Hospital in Clydebank.

In 2010 he became a senior research fellow and emeritus professor, and was awarded the OBE for services to cardiology, and sport and exercise medicine.

Football is a national obsession in Scotland, and this provided the opportunity for Stewart Hillis to develop sports medicine and science. His understanding of the benefits of exercise in the prevention and treatment of disease predated the general acceptance of physical inactivity as a risk factor. Stewart combined the promotion of activity medically with being team doctor for 27 years at Clydebank Football Club, and for one year with Rangers. He became medical consultant with the Scottish Football Association (SFA) in 1977, and the international team doctor in 1982. He attended three World Cup finals and

two European championships, and by the time of his retirement in 2012 he had provided medical care at 228 international matches, a world record for a team doctor. Since 1990 he had been vice chairman of the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) medical committee, and he was the lead of the antidoping programme for the SFA, and tournament medical and antidoping organiser for UEFA and the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA). He lobbied successfully for a sports medicine centre at Hampden Park, where he introduced antidoping checks and cardiac screening and assessments of young athletes. The latter was funded initially by the Scottish government, and the success has resulted in their continued funding. The deployment of defibrillators in sports centres and stadiums was another initiative he pioneered.

He started the MSc and BSc degrees in sports and exercise medicine in 1995 and remained course director until 2012. Stewart had a special interest in cardiovascular screening, working with the Scottish government to lead the Cardiac Assessment in Young Athletes (CAYA) programme.

He was in Cardiff in 1985, when Jock Stein—the Scotland manager—collapsed and died. Scotland qualified for the Mexico World Cup in 1986. Stewart worked with the new manager, Alex Ferguson, and they became close friends. Sir Alex delivered a tribute at Stewart's memorial service.

Scotland's current manager, Gordon Strachan, said "He was great company and was hugely respected in his job. There's nothing more you can ask of your team doctor, but 'the Prof' always lit up the room with his personality."

In 2008 Stewart was awarded the prestigious Sir Robert Atkin prize by the Institute of Sports and Exercise Medicine. He was awarded the 2014 Sir Roger Bannister Award for outstanding contributions to sport and exercise medicine. Stewart learnt of this award, which delighted him, shortly before his death.

Stewart was an enthusiast in all that he did and had anecdotes on his many activities. He had a deep faith and was a long serving elder and on occasion a lay preacher in Abbotsford Church in Clydebank. He recently chaired and convened the committee that appointed a minister for newly linked parishes. A great supporter of youth development in the church, he was captain of the boys' brigade for many years.

He leaves his wife, Anne; three sons; and a daughter.

Stuart Murray, John MacLean, Frank Dunn

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Ian Gibb Bogle



General practitioner and medical politician (b 1938; q Liverpool 1961; CBE, MD, FRCGP), d 21 June 2014.

Ian Gibb Bogle was brought up and educated in Liverpool, where he worked as a GP. A fellow of the BMA, he was awarded the BMA Gold Medal for distinguished merit in 2004. Active in local and national medical politics, he was elected to Liverpool's local medical committee in July 1969 and became its secretary in May 1973, a position he held until September 1990. From April 1979 to 1981 he was also the committee's vice chair, was active in numerous other committees, and was elected chairman of BMA Council in 1998. He was awarded a CBE for services to the medical profession in June 2003. During his entire career, he fought to improve general practice, equality of access to services, and the standard of care delivered to patients. He leaves his wife, Julie; two daughters; three grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Rob Barnett

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John Rodgers Cox



Former consultant in geriatric and general medicine (b 1927; q Sheffield 1954; MD, FRCP, MRCPGP, MRCPsych), died from complications of diabetes on 18 November 2013.

John Rodgers Cox qualified in general practice in 1958 and became a clinical assistant in psychiatry at Middlewood Hospital in 1962. In 1966 he was appointed as a consultant physician in medicine, geriatric medicine, and psychogeriatric medicine at Nether

Edge and Middlewood hospitals. Finally he worked at Nether Edge and the Royal Hallamshire hospitals, retiring in 1992. Having worked as a police surgeon in Sheffield for many years, he also served as chairman of Nether Edge Hospital's medical committee and Trent Regional Health Authority, and was president and past chairman of the British Association for Services to the Elderly. Rodgers played cricket into his 60s and golf into his late 70s. Predeceased by his wife, Shelagh, in 2013, he leaves three children.

Lesley Baker

Cite this as: [BMJ 2014;349:g5625](#)

Peter Alan Dupont

Former consultant surgeon (b 1938; q St Mary's Hospital Medical School 1963; FRCS), d 31 July 2014.

Peter Alan Dupont was fluent in French, having been born in France in 1938, and having lived in francophone west Africa. His mother died when he was a small child, and he had to return to family in the UK, completing his education in Colchester before entering St Mary's. He did his house jobs at St Mary's and King Edward's hospitals before doing his surgical training. He collected his certificate of higher surgical training in 1976, moved to Australia in 1977, and passed the Australasian fellowship a year later. He followed this with two years as senior registrar at the Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide, before accepting a consultant post at the Flinders in 1979. He remained as a consultant in Adelaide until his retirement. Peter leaves two children and grandchildren.

Richard Knight

Cite this as: [BMJ 2014;349:g5631](#)

John Beocher Scrimgeour

Former consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist Western General Hospital (b 1939; q Edinburgh University 1962; FRCP Ed, FRCS Ed, FRCOG), d 25 February 2014.

John Beocher Scrimgeour completed his early work on the association between alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) and neural tube defects while working at Edinburgh's Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion. During this time



he developed the procedure of fetoscopy, which contributed to a greatly enhanced understanding of the association between raised AFP in amniotic fluid and open fetal spina bifida. In 1973 John was appointed

consultant at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. He served on various committees and, in 1993, was appointed the first medical director of the hospital. As one of the principal architects of the hospital's successful application for trust status, John's partnership with the CEO, John Connachan, helped the Western General to thrive before he retired in 1998. John leaves his wife, Joyce; two children; and six grandchildren.

Mike Scrimgeour

Cite this as: [BMJ 2014;349:g5627](#)

Desmond Gerard Taylor



Former consultant cardiothoracic surgeon (b 1925; q Queen's University Belfast 1948; FRCS), died from a haemopericardium secondary to ruptured aneurysm of the thoracic aorta on 30 March 2014.

Desmond Gerard Taylor became a consultant cardiothoracic surgeon in Sheffield in 1960. During a lengthy career, he chaired the city's, and South Yorkshire's, consultants committees. An able medical politician who could get to the heart of matters with a few well chosen words, he is remembered by colleagues for his immense good sense. However, he relished his clinical medicine more than politics and remained interested in his clinical work until retirement. A great raconteur, after a life of service to the NHS, he enjoyed his retirement immensely. Predeceased by his wife, Colette, by four years, he leaves two children (one of his sons died since this obituary was submitted—see <http://www.bmj.com/content/349/bmj.g5529>), who both work in the NHS, and seven grandchildren.

Nick Taylor

Cite this as: [BMJ 2014;349:g5742](#)

John Desmond Taylor



Former consultant in transplant surgery Guy's Hospital, London (b 1953; q Guy's Hospital Medical School 1977; MD, FRCS), died from mesothelioma on 24 June 2014.

John Desmond Taylor studied medicine at Cambridge and Guy's, where as a child he attended the wards with his father, a cardiac surgeon. During his training he visited the pioneering Minnesota pancreas transplant unit. Appointed to Guy's in 1994 he established the pancreatic transplant programme that became his life's passion. He also worked at Canterbury and King's College hospitals as well as the Evelina London Children's and Great Ormond Street hospitals. He was a tireless advocate of his patients' needs, and his peerlessly high standards inspired a generation of trainees. Deeply private, he remained an enigma to his colleagues, while nevertheless inspiring devotion in staff and patients alike. Having borne his devastating final illness with characteristic stoicism and dignity, he leaves his sister, his brother, and seven nephews and nieces. His father died a few months before him (see <http://www.bmj.com/content/349/bmj.g5742>).

Geoff Koffman

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