Obituaries

Emyr Wyn Jones



Former consultant physician and cardiologist Liverpool (b Waunfawr, north Wales 1907; q Liverpool 1928 (first class honours, and distinctions in medicine and surgery); DPH, FRCP; OBE), d 14 January 1999. He held several research fellowships before joining the consultant staff at the Liverpool teaching hospitals in 1935. He was later physician in charge of the cardiac centre, director of studies in cardiology, and lecturer in clinical medicine at the medical school. During the second world war he was physician to the Emergency Medical Services for north Wales. Emyr was chairman of the British Cardiac Society and president (later honorary life president) of Y Gymdeithas Feddygol (the Welsh language medical society). He had a long association with the University of Wales College of Medicine in Cardiff, representing it on the council and court of the university. Outside medicine Emyr was high sheriff of the county of Caernarfon in 1947-8; member of the court of governors of the National Library and the National Museum of Wales; and president of the court of the National Eisteddfod. He was later elected a fellow of the Eisteddfod. He wrote extensively on cardiology and on the history of medicine in Welsh and English. His first wife died in 1967 and he leaves his second wife, Megan, and a son and daughter from his first marriage. [Tom Davies]

Wilfrid George Oakley

Former consultant physician King's College Hospital (b 1906; q Cambridge/St Bartholomew's 1929), d 25 December 1998. He took the MRCP as a lark while still a house physician and passed it. He stayed at St Bartholomew's for nine years, coming under the influence of George Graham, a pioneer in the treatment of diabetes. In 1938 he was enticed to King's by R D Lawrence, the British pioneer in diabetes. He had created



a separate department, some of whose staff were diabetic. When Lawrence retired in 1957 Wilfrid took over and the department continued to flourish in terms of patient care, teaching, and research. He was interested in all aspects of diabetes, particularly in pregnancy, and with Sir John Peel he reduced the perinatal mortality from about 40% to less than 5%. He collaborated on two textbooks and wrote many papers. Wilfrid was chairman of the medical and scientific section of the British Diabetic Association, 1966-9. He had a large private practice, which he gave up only on his 82nd birthday. He was hard working and utterly dependable, with a nice brand of, often self directed, humour. Predeceased by his wife, Hermione, whom he met in his second week as a medical student and decided to marry, he leaves a son (a consultant physician) and a granddaughter. [DAVID

Alexander Sherlock



Former general practitioner Felixstowe, 1948-79, and member of the European parliament, 1979-89 (b Coventry 1922; q The London 1945; CBE), d 18 February 1999. While a general practitioner Alec had to deal with the east coast flood of 1953, which claimed 39 lives, and he was caught in a second blast and suffered severe leg injuries when called to an explosion at Felixstowe gasworks in 1956. He found relaxation in legal studies and was called to the bar in 1961; in 1971 and 1972 he served as assist-

ant deputy coroner for St Pancras. He carried on these activities concurrently with his practice, was county surgeon for the St John Ambulance Brigade, served on urban and county councils, and was active in the rotary club and freemasonry. When he became an MEP as a European Democratic group member he attempted to cure two ills-costly bureaucracy and verbal incontinence, using blunt language that might have caused him trouble if he had been a Westminster MP. He was successful in his official duties as front bench spokesman on the environment and in the committee on the environment, public health, and consumer protection. Whether speaking on budgets, hazardous waste, pollution in general, or the quality of beers and wines, he could be relied on the get quickly to the heart of the matter with technical mastery. In retirement Alec loved to work in his garden. Predeceased by his first wife, Peggy, he leaves his second wife, Eileen; one son and two daughters from his first marriage; eight grandchildren; and one great grandchild. [DONALD BLACK]

Penat Raman Menon Sreevalsan



Former general practitioner Oakwood, Derby (b Kerala, India, 1938; q Kerala 1964); d 3 February 1999. After he came to England in 1967 he worked in several hospitals, where his special interest was care of the elderly. In 1986 he started his own practice in Oakwood which grew rapidly, despite his heart attack and coronary bypass surgery. His wife joined the practice in 1992 and later another part time doctor was appointed to help look after the 5000 patients. One of them nominated him for a Doctor in Care award in 1995. Dr Sreevalsan was a founder member of the Calicut Medical College (UK) Association. He leaves a wife, Santha; a son; and a daughter (a medical student). [V T V Jose]