

OBITUARY

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H C M WILLIAMS

OBE, KSTJ, MRCS, LRCP, DPH

Dr H C M Williams, who until his retirement was chief medical officer of health at Southampton and chief port medical officer, has died aged 82.

Hubert Cecil Maurice Williams was born in Carmarthenshire and trained at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, qualifying in 1923. After working as a house surgeon he went to India to study smallpox and cholera. In 1927 he entered the service of the then Southampton Corporation as assistant port medical officer. He was appointed assistant medical officer of health in 1929 and chief medical officer of health and chief port medical officer in 1931; he was at that time the youngest medical officer of health in the country. He retired in 1965.

Dr Williams played a large part in Southampton's slum clearance scheme and believed strongly in vaccination and immunisation against diseases—this was particularly important in a busy sea port. In 1937 he was responsible for setting up camps for 4000 Basque children and their subsequent welfare. During the war he was controller of civil defence medical services; he was awarded the OBE in 1941 for this work. He wrote many articles, and in 1962 his book on the history of public health in Southampton was published. He became secretary of the Association of Port Health Authorities in the British Isles in 1943; was president of the Society of Medical Officers of Health of Great Britain in 1949; and was a past national president of the Royal Society of Health, whose meetings he attended up to the time of his death. He is survived by his wife and three children.

A G WILKINSON

MB, CHB, MD

Dr A G Wilkinson, who until his retirement was a general practitioner in Leeds, died on 3 October in St James's Hospital, Leeds, aged 80.

Arthur Gordon Wilkinson was born in Elland on 16 September 1901. He was educated at Elland Grammar School and entered the medical school at Liverpool University in 1917, graduating in 1923. He proceeded MD cum laude in 1928. After holding various appointments in Liverpool he moved to Leeds in 1927, where he was appointed deputy medical superintendent of St James's Hospital. In 1929 he took up general practice in Headingley and, in the same year, married Nancy McKay. The war years were among his busiest, for he acted as caretaker for two other practices and was tutor to the St John Ambulance Service. In 1944 he received permission to join the Royal Army Medical Corps, but the war ended as he was completing a course in tropical medicine before being posted overseas. He subsequently returned to active practice, where he remained until his retirement in 1967.

Gordon Wilkinson brought to his work a wide knowledge and experience. His distinguished figure and fund of common sense allied to a strong sense of humour will never be forgotten by his patients and colleagues, who were devoted to him. Retirement did not quench his enthusiasm, and he continued to generate in others his own commitment. His family and friends were extremely important to him; he suffered the tragic loss of his older son with characteristic courage. He is survived by Nancy, his son John and daughter Ann, and 10 grandchildren.—GNC.

JENNIFER M GRIFFITHS

MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP, DA

Dr Jennifer M Griffiths, a part-time anaesthetist at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, died on 1 September.

Jennifer Mary Griffiths was born in 1945 and educated at Cheltenham Ladies' College. She entered St Mary's Hospital, London, in 1963 and was a fine all-rounder, flying through her academic course with great enthusiasm and scholastic achievement. She represented her hospital at many sports with natural skill, played lacrosse for the British universities, and was an excellent flautist, playing in the medical school orchestra. She met her future husband in her early student days, and their relationship flourished as one of the greatest joys of her life. On graduating in 1968 Jenny did her house jobs in Windsor and back at St Mary's before being married in 1969. She then dedicated herself to anaesthetics at High Wycombe and the Royal Berkshire Hospital until in 1971, with her husband in practice at Great Missenden, she entered the married women's scheme and worked at High Wycombe and for the last four years at Stoke Mandeville.

Jenny was a conscientious doctor, and her great warmth and interest will long be remembered by all her patients and colleagues. She had the happy gift of making friends wherever she went. She found the perfect balance in her life, fully assuming the role of a mother and wife while maintaining her clinical interest and skills and sharing with her family a great affection for country life. Her good humour and wonderfully cheerful personality never left her, even in her last illness, which was mercifully short. She is deeply mourned by her husband Tony and their three children.—AJMT.

M M ROSE

MB, CHB, MRCS, LRCP

Dr M M Rose, who was in general practice in Middleton, Manchester, died on 11 October aged 61.

Montague Myer Rose—"Monty" as he was affectionately known—was born on 17 January 1920 and educated at Manchester Grammar School, from where he proceeded to Manchester University. He graduated in 1943 and

passed the conjoint examination in the same year. He served in the RAMC in Italy and Greece during the last stages of the second world war and after demobilisation set up in single-handed practice in Middleton, where he spent the remainder of his professional life.

Tall, dark, and uncommonly handsome, Monty was shy and modest. He avoided committees and shunned the limelight, but he had an insatiable thirst for knowledge and avidly attended clinical meetings and post-graduate courses. He saw continuing education as a vital necessity if he was to do his best for his patients; they, in turn, recognised in him the quintessence of dedication and total devotion. He was a perfectionist in his hobbies as well as his work: his knowledge of plants, shrubs, and flowers was encyclopaedic, and his advice on gardening was frequently sought. He also took a keen interest in antiques, philately, theatre, sport, and good food.

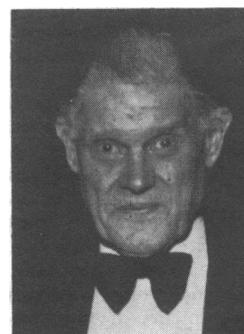
For three years Monty lived with the knowledge that he had an incurable illness, but he bore it with exemplary courage, serving his patients until it was quite impossible for him to continue. He is survived by a daughter and a son.—HD.

R W BARR-BROWN

MA, BM, BCH

Dr R W Barr-Brown, who was honorary medical officer to the Amateur Boxing Association and formerly consultant in geriatrics at Queen's Hospital, Croydon, died on 3 October.

Ramon William Barr-Brown was born in New Zealand and educated at Sydney



Grammar School and Sydney University. He took an honours degree in physiology in 1926 at Oxford University and subsequently worked in research at Burroughs Wellcome. He graduated in medicine at Christ Church, Oxford, and St Bartholomew's Hospital in

1949. After a series of training posts he became consultant in geriatrics at Queen's Hospital, Croydon, where he remained until his retirement in 1967.

Amateur boxing was Dr Barr-Brown's real interest, and he was honorary medical officer to the Amateur Boxing Association from 1961 until his death. He was a founder member of and honorary medical officer to the London Amateur Boxing Association from 1949. He and Dr L Blonstein devised and put into action the medical scheme that strictly controls the health and welfare of amateur boxers in England. This scheme has been improved

over the years and has been copied by many countries in Europe; no other contact sport has such a strict and efficient scheme. With Dr Blonstein Dr Barr-Brown wrote *Medical Aspects of Boxing* in 1972.

Ramon gave unstintingly of his time and efforts in looking after the health and welfare of many boxers especially in London and in giving his advice and support to administrators and coaches. Despite failing health he was attending boxing meetings up to a week before his death. His enthusiasm, ever-ready help, and support will be much missed. He is survived by his wife Dorothy.—JRA.

JEAN P CROOKES

MB, CHB

Dr Jean P Crookes, an ophthalmologist in Dublin, died on 24 May after a long illness.

Jean Parker Smith was born on 21 January 1917 at Stanley, Perthshire, and educated at Perth Academy. She graduated from St Andrews University in 1940, achieving honours and the gold medal in surgery. After initial house appointments in Dundee she went to Birmingham, where she undertook ophthalmic work at the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital throughout the second world war. In 1945 she was appointed consultant ophthalmic surgeon to the West Bromwich General Hospital and other hospitals in the Birmingham area. It was at the Birmingham Eye Hospital that she met her future husband, Dr Gearoid Crookes, whom she married in 1950 and who became a consultant ophthalmologist in Dublin, where Jean continued her work.

Jean developed a wide circle of friends and her hospitality was boundless. Her gentleness was deceptive, as throughout her life she supported countless friends in time of need. She died after a prolonged and trying illness bravely faced. Her marriage was childless but exceptionally happy.—JSS.

M H JANMAHOMED

MB, BS, DMRD

Dr M H Janmahomed, who was consultant radiologist in charge of the department of diagnostic radiology at Oldchurch and Rush Green Hospitals in Romford from 1973, died suddenly at his home on 15 July. He was 44.

Munaver Hasanally Janmahomed was born in India on 5 October 1936 and received his medical education at the Grant Medical College in Bombay, where he graduated in 1960. He came to England shortly afterwards to pursue his ambition to become a surgeon and held house appointments at Hull and Aylesbury. He was then a surgical senior house officer at the Royal Buckingham Hospital from 1963 to 1964 and at Rochford General Hospital until 1965, when a serious accident interrupted his career and nearly ended his life. After recovery he was left with mild residual hemiparesis and so could no longer become a surgeon. With remarkable courage and cheerfulness he started again, pursuing a career in diagnostic radiology at several London hospitals before being appointed to the staff of Oldchurch and Rush Green Hospitals.

Dr Janmahomed was a skilled radiologist who was well liked by his colleagues for his approachability, enthusiasm, and infectious

cheerfulness. A courteous and warm welcome awaited anyone who went to see him in his department, no matter how great the pressure of work. His energy and hard work were soon reflected in an increasingly active and forward-looking department. During his period of office a CT head scanner was installed, and by tremendous application he rapidly became a master of the technical and interpretative aspects of the new apparatus.

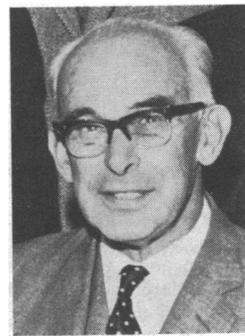
Dr Janmahomed married in 1979 and is survived by his wife Nora and baby son Troy.—JAT.

R P OSBORNE

MB, CHB, FRCS

Mr R P Osborne, formerly a plastic surgeon in Liverpool, died on 13 September.

Rowland Percy Osborne graduated in medicine at Manchester University in 1927.



He became resident surgical officer at the Park Hospital, Davyhulme, in Manchester, and in 1940 was appointed superintendent of Whiston Hospital, Prescot, part of which was being used by the army. He was attracted to the specialty of plastic surgery, training

for which at that time had to be done under Sir Harold Gillies, Archibald McIndoe, Rainsford Mowlem, or Thomas Kilner; it was to Thomas Kilner, at Stoke Mandeville, that he went in 1942. Soon after he arrived he was given the affectionate nickname of "Rastus," by which he was widely known by his contemporaries.

On his return to Liverpool Mr Osborne set about getting the specialty of plastic surgery established and accepted; in the early years convincing people of the need for an infant specialty was a task that demanded perseverance and tact as well as much hard work. He established a burns unit at Whiston Hospital, obtained a children's ward at Alder Hey Hospital, and was appointed to the Royal Southern Hospital, part of the teaching group. From this triangular base he covered the region and found time to maintain his links with Stoke Mandeville Hospital, where he would go every Saturday on the midnight train from Lime Street (having a regular contract with the engine driver to fill his hot-water bottle). In addition he covered north Wales by holding clinics in Rhyl and Bangor and travelled weekly to Southport, where he did a session in the paraplegic unit. He maintained this busy peripatetic programme all his professional life and only stopped travelling weekly to Stoke Mandeville and Oxford, where Mr Kilner had moved as professor, around 1961.

Mr Osborne's special interest was the treatment of cleft lip and palate and pressure sores in paraplegics. He was responsible with Dr W R Burstton for founding the first pre-surgical orthopaedic cleft lip and palate unit in the world, from which many subsequently followed. He was a founder member of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons and the first treasurer of the Association, which

post he held continuously until his retirement in 1972, a record of service unlikely to be surpassed. He was elected president of the Association in 1957. In addition to being an extremely competent surgeon he was an ardent advocate for his specialty and an excellent committee man and chairman: he always had a point of view to express and controlled any meeting he chaired in exemplary fashion.

Mr Osborne married late in life and is survived by his wife Gwen and son Simon.—ML.

S DAVIDSON

AFC, FRCS(ED), FRCOG

JCG and HLR write: The excellent obituary of Sam Davidson (24 October, p 1130) may perhaps have left some readers wondering how he came to be awarded the Air Force Cross, since even during the war very few serving medical officers achieved this distinction. He was a member of 603 (Edinburgh) Squadron of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force but retired from this in 1938 as a protest against the Munich Agreement. He rejoined the Air Force as a volunteer reserve soon after the start of the war and became a pilot officer instructor—probably the only one to have senior qualifications in surgery and obstetrics. He served at the flying training school at Perth and was later posted to the Empire Central Flying School at Hullavington. By this time he had been transferred to the medical branch. Here he worked on the general aeromedical aspects of flying training, greatly improving the system of communication between pupil and instructor. From Hullavington Sam moved in early 1943 to the RAF physiological laboratory at Farnborough, where his unique qualifications made him an invaluable member of staff, particularly in the development of the G-suit. This anti-blackout garment was being intensively developed at the laboratory, but as there was no centrifuge available all the testing had to be done in the air. Sam's courage combined with his acute powers of observation and deduction and his attention to detail led to rapid improvements in the garment. Sam was accepted by the test pilots at the Royal Aircraft Establishment as one of themselves and undertook many hours of flying duties on their behalf, including in four-engined bombers and the early jet aircraft. He was thus able, at an early stage, to pin-point aeromedical problems. His charm and obvious competence made him an invaluable member of the small team who developed aviation medicine in this country during the war.

W S MCKENZIE

MB, BCHIR, FRCS

HJMS writes: Bill McKenzie's death (24 October, p 1130) should not be allowed to pass without mention of, firstly, his kindness to ex-servicemen who were struggling to get trained for consultant posts, and, secondly, his founding of the Semon Club in the 1950s, which enabled ENT consultants at hospitals in London and the home counties, at that time often working single handed, to meet together to discuss unusual or difficult cases; this clinical club has proved of inestimable benefit to many of us, and the discussions were always enlivened by Bill's humour.