



D C Thursby-Pelham

D C THURSBY-PELHAM FRCP, DCH

David Thursby-Pelham gave Stoke on Trent a place in paediatric medical history by recognising pink disease, identifying the mercury in teething powders as a cause of infant death. His particular interest was metabolic disorders. Long before the official advent of community paediatrics he established links with special schools and other relevant community services, later encouraging the local development of special care for neonates.

Paediatrics in north Staffordshire owes much to its founding father. Noted for his kindness and camaraderie, David also entered local folklore for his absent mindedness. A lifelong lover of country pursuits, he was badly injured when thrown from his horse in 1972 but, despite residual disability, maintained his clinical and other interests. He died six weeks after a road traffic accident and is survived by his wife, Helen, who is also a doctor, and their son, Charles. — JANET GOODALL

David Cressett Thursby-Pelham, formerly a consultant paediatrician at North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and the City General Hospital and City Maternity Hospital in Stoke on Trent, died 8 January aged 74. Studied medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School (MRCS, LRCP 1942). Appointed first male resident at Royal Free Hospital for Women. Appointed consultant 1948; retired 1982.



D M T Gairdner

D M T GAIRDNER MA, DM, FRCP

Douglas Gairdner (often known as "DG") was an outstanding figure in the development of British paediatrics after the second world war and brought almost boundless energy and enthusiasm into everything that he did. The first consultant paediatrician in Cambridge, he ran his busy department with a minimum number of staff and beds. Besides being a first rate general paediatrician he was way ahead of his time in establishing neonatology as a subspecialty: measurement of fetal and neonatal blood gases was routine even in 1964. His careful statistics from the special care baby unit were invaluable in monitoring trends in perinatal mortality and morbidity since 1950. The papers on erythropoiesis that he and colleagues wrote in the 1950s are still useful. He himself was pleased with his article against circumcision, published in the *BMJ* in 1948, because it proved so provocative.

Douglas brought out the best in people, having an informal manner and unfailing good humour and always being ready to praise. He had numerous outside interests and was a pleasure to be with as listener and talker. He considered that his one claim to fame was to have had Peter Pears in his madrigal group, Benjamin Britten as his fag, and W H Auden's knee to sit on.

After retiring he did a weekly clinic in London, worked for the Citizens' Advice Bureau, played his tuba in a local band (he also played the flute), sailed, and retained his youthfulness and zest for life to a remarkable degree. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three daughters and five grandchildren. His youngest daughter was killed in a road accident more than 20 years ago. — GILLIAN GANDY

ROGER ROBINSON writes: As the first, and for many years the only, consultant paediatrician in Cambridge Douglas Gairdner built the district and regional service. Though there was no academic department of paediatrics at Cambridge during those years, he constantly produced research of importance, and over a wide range of topics: on Schönlein-Henoch purpura, the nephrotic syndrome, circumcision, the formation of red cells in infancy, and the development of adipose cells. His contributions to neonatology included improving the management of respiratory problems in the newborn and elucidating their pathogenesis. He was the longest serving editor of *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, and during his 15 years in the editorial chair the journal steadily increased in size, scientific content, and international reputation.

Douglas Montagu Temple Gairdner, a consultant paediatrician in Cambridge 1948-75, died 10 May aged 81. Born 19 November 1910. Educated Kelvinside Academy, Glasgow; Dragon School, Oxford; Gresham's School; read chemistry at Trinity College, Oxford, then changed to medicine, doing clinical training at Middlesex Hospital (BM, BCh 1936). Training posts in paediatrics at Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London; Bellevue Hospital, New York; and King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne. During war served in Royal Army Medical Corps for five years. Editor of "Recent Advances in Paediatrics" (four editions), coeditor of "Archives of Disease in Childhood" 1964-79. Founder member of Neonatal Society and president 1972-5. Awarded James Spence medal of British Paediatric Association and Dawson-Williams prize of BMA.

G H ILLINGWORTH MD

Before studying medicine Godfrey Herbert Illingworth obtained a first in engineering at Oxford University and worked as an engineer for a while. He built and published the design for "safety bars" and an "enclosure" for his own motorcycle (later to become crash bars and fairings) in 1936, many years before such things became accepted. He subsequently worked during an era of great technical advance in radiology, which appealed to him as an engineer, and became skilled in the radiology of bone disease.

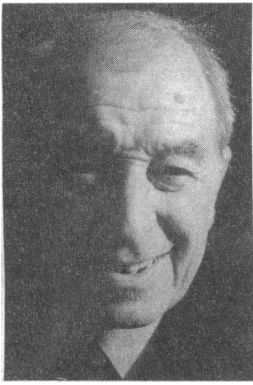
In his youth he had travelled extensively throughout Europe by bicycle and took excellent photographs (many published) of these tours. He played the organ and the piano. A shy, private man, he was interested in cars and gardening. His love of the lake district led to retirement in Coniston and Windermere, where he led the uncomplicated though well ordered life of a bachelor. He wore stiff collars, which he laundered himself, to the last. He remained active and was still walking the fells and driving (fast) at 85. He died as he would have wished, privately at home. His diary for 1991, like everything else in his life, was completed and up to date. — ROGER FRANKS

Godfrey Herbert Illingworth, formerly deputy director of diagnostic radiology at Leeds General Infirmary, a consultant radiologist at St Bartholomew's Hospital in Goole, and a lecturer in radiology at Leeds University, died early January. Born Harrogate, 26 January 1906; educated Bradford Grammar School, Oxford University, Leeds University (MB, ChB 1940). Retired 1968.

I PIERCE-WILLIAMS MRAD

Ifan Pierce-Williams's interest in radiology was initially stimulated by one of his partners in general practice in Llandudno, who supplied the x ray service to the hospital. Ifan worked single handedly until the latter part of his career, becoming known for his perceptive eye, diagnostic acumen, and expeditious care of

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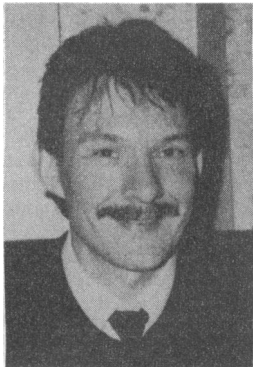
I Pierce-Williams

patients. He was the first consultant appointed to Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Management Committee.

Evie was a generous host and a raconteur of great wit with a rare and engaging recall of events from his childhood and professional life. An excellent golfer and fisherman, he latterly devoted more time to his garden with his wife, Nona. He is survived by Nona and by two daughters, Gail and Janet, and four grandchildren.

—H DAVIES, C H WRIGHT

Ifan Pierce-Williams, a consultant radiologist to Clwyd and Gwynedd Health Authorities 1948-78, died 2 January aged 79. Born Bethel, Caernarvonshire, 1912; educated Ruabon Grammar School, Liverpool University (MB, ChB 1938). General practitioner in north Wales, then served in Royal Air Force 1943-5. Appointed consultant at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl, and then at Llandudno General Hospital.



D Thomas

Dale Thomas, MRCP, FRACP, DCH, a rheumatologist with practices in Adelaide and London, died on 12 December aged 42. He was born in 1949 and studied medicine at Manchester University (MB, ChB 1971). An outstanding athlete, particularly at lacrosse, he represented England in a tour of Australia in 1974 and came to like the country: he subsequently held junior and research posts alternately in Australia and England, establishing an international reputation for his work on thermography in rheumatic disorders. He subsequently developed a thriving private practice in rheumatology in Adelaide. In 1989 he returned to the United Kingdom and built up a private practice in sports medicine and rheumatology in London, though he commuted to Adelaide to supervise his practice there. Outside medicine Dale had many interests; he lived life to the full, possibly being spurred on by the fact that his father had died young, of cancer, when he was only 3. A similar tragedy has now befallen Dale's sons. He is survived by his mother; his wife, Kate; and his sons, Marc (7) and Andrew (4). —J G MOSLEY



J Cox

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Surgeon Rear Admiral James Cox, OBE, FFRCS, formerly a consultant anaesthetist in the Royal Navy, died on 22 November. Born in 1928, he graduated MB, BS from Durham University in 1951 and joined the navy the next year. Early work in the anaesthetic research department at the Royal College of Surgeons led to a classic paper on expired air resuscitation, which laid the foundations of respiratory resuscitation today. Jim contributed much to the operational role of the naval medical service. As staff medical officer to HQ Commando Forces Royal Marines he reorganised the structure and training of its medical squadron, a typically perceptive action that was vindicated in the Falkland Islands campaign. After being placed on the retired list in 1984 he worked as county surgeon and deputy commissioner to the St John Ambulance Service until 1990, becoming a commander of the Order of St John. Jim had a massive frame and an extravert personality. His irrepressible wit and wicked chuckle enlivened any gathering. He is survived by his wife, Liz; son, David; and daughter, Gillian. —T R FLETCHER

Matthew John Peter Luckhurst, BSC, MB, BCHIR, who had temporarily left medicine to work for a publishing group in Oxford, died in a car crash on 9 February. He was 24. Born on 20 October 1967, he trained at Cambridge University and St Bartholomew's Hospital, graduating in 1990. He was an excellent all round sportsman, gaining first team colours in cricket, football, hockey, and tennis as well as playing golf; he was also an able writer and composed poetry. Matthew was witty, charming, and generous; sadly, he was

never able to recognise in himself the many talents and human qualities that were evident to others. He is survived by his parents, his brother, and his sister, Heidi, who is a general practitioner. —Y BASHIR

George Roland Parry, FRCS, who had worked at the artificial limb and appliance centre at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford, died on 28 November. Roland was born in Liverpool in 1915 and practised as a chartered masseur (1933-8) before studying medicine at University College Hospital (MRCS, LRCP 1944; MB, BS 1948). He subsequently held various posts at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, and continued to attend weekly clinics there until his retirement in 1981. In 1958 he joined the artificial limb and appliance service as a medical officer, being based in Nottingham and then Roehampton. In 1968 he supervised the move of the artificial limb and appliance centre for Oxford region to the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre; he then became the first honorary consultant in the service. Roland took a keen interest in all aspects of rehabilitating amputees; perhaps his greatest contribution was to develop an expert service for the prosthetic rehabilitation of children with congenital limb deficiencies. He is survived by his wife, Audrey, and three daughters and a son. —R G TAYLOR, J D MORRISON

Francis Edward Pilkington, FRCP, FRCPI, FRCPSYCH, formerly physician superintendent of Moorhaven Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon, died on 15 December aged 86. Born in Repton, Derbyshire, in 1905, he was educated at Clifton College and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and King's College Hospital (MRCS, LRCP 1930; MB, BChir 1934). During the war he served in the army, becoming deputy assistant director of army psychiatry at the War Office. His real life's work began when he was appointed to Moorhaven Hospital in 1946. A superb organiser and meticulous planner, he instituted changes that drew this rather forgotten hospital into line with the most advanced mental hospitals of the era. Elected president of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association in 1968, he also contributed to the founding of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Francis found great enjoyment and fascination in all people. His retirement was dominated by his affection for Ashburton, where he lived, and Dartmoor and his garden. He wrote *A History of Ashburton*, now in its second edition, and "A short history of Ireland" for his 12 grandchildren. —MICHAEL HUDSON

Robert James Young, MD, FRCP, formerly a consultant paediatrician to the Western Health and Social Service Board in Northern Ireland, died on 23 October. Born on 11 July 1917, he graduated MB, BCh, BAO from Queen's University of Belfast in 1942. He took an extended service commission in the Royal Air Force until 1950 and then returned to Northern Ireland as principal tutor in child health at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children. In 1954 he was appointed a consultant paediatrician based in Londonderry; he joined the staff of the new Altnagelvin Hospital in 1960. During most of his 28 years as a consultant he was solely responsible for services in the western board's area. A colleague shared the workload for a few years before his retirement. Robert Young's leisure interests included horticulture and golf; in retirement he spent each winter in Spain, where he played golf and was a generous host. He is survived by his wife, Mary; daughter, Elizabeth; and sons, John and Robin (an associate professor in pathology at Massachusetts General Hospital). —D A J KEEGAN