
Obituaries



Geoffrey Garfit Wallis, formerly Surgeon Captain, the Royal Navy and Consultant Psychiatrist at High Royds Hospital, Menston and St James's University Hospital, Leeds

Dr Wallis was born in Southsea, Hampshire and came from a Naval family. His father was a doctor in the Royal Navy and his paternal grandfather had been a Naval Paymaster Captain. His father died when he was only four years old and he grew up with his mother. Early schooling was in Hampshire and in Malta and later at Epsom College, where he was keen on rugby and cricket. He maintained his interest in these sports all his life.

Geoffrey qualified in medicine at University College Hospital, London in 1941 and did his house jobs with Sir Thomas Lewis and Dr Andrew Morland. He then joined the Royal Navy as Medical Officer in 1942, specialising in psychiatry, particularly in electroencephalography. He was up-graded as a specialist in 1949 and

appointed as a Consultant Psychiatrist to the Royal Navy in 1956. He was Adviser in Psychiatry to the Medical Director-General (Navy) and was the Chairman of the Military Section of the World Psychiatric Association. He received the Gilbert Blane Gold Medal in recognition of his contribution to psychiatry in its application to Naval service. He studied stress as a predictor in schizophrenia, the subject of his MD from London University in 1966. He became a Foundation Fellow at the inception of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1971.

After a successful career in psychiatry in the Royal Navy he decided to retire early in order to start a career in psychiatry in the NHS. After retiring from the Royal Navy in 1972 he was appointed as a consultant psychiatrist to High Royds Hospital, Menston and St James's University Hospital, Leeds where he served until 1983. Geoffrey served as a Clinical Tutor (he had previously done the same job in the Royal Navy and Royal Army Medical Corps) and he took keen interest in the activities of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He was a member of the Clinical Tutor Sub-Committee and Executive Committee of the North East Division and had represented the Division as Fellow on Council of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He had also served on the Public Policy, Programmes and Meetings Committee, Library Committee and also in the Liaison Committee between the Royal College of Psychiatrists and the College of Occupational Therapists. Although he was heavily committed in day-to-day clinical work, he gave a considerable amount of time to administrative duties, serving as the Chairman of the Division of Psychiatry of Leeds Western District and fulfilling his academic role as a Clinical Lecturer at Leeds University. He was Chairman of Leeds Regional Psychiatric Association and was an active member from 1990 and President 1995-1997 of the Leeds and West Riding Medico-Legal Society. He was well known by the local solicitors who respected him for his forthright, down-to-earth medico-legal opinion.

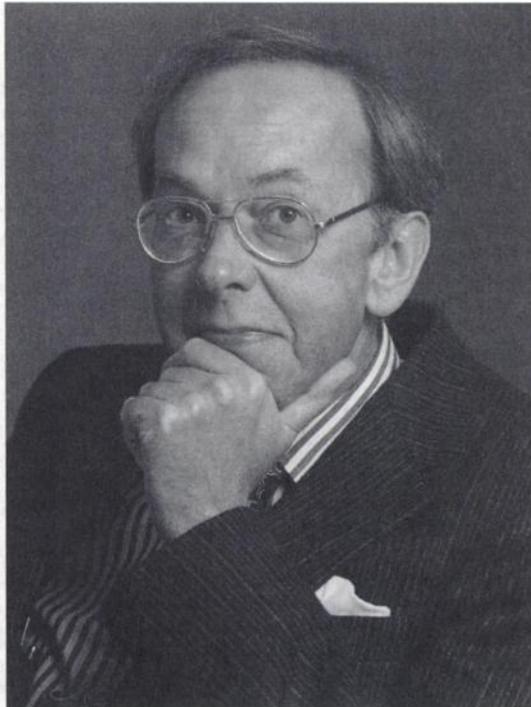
Geoffrey met his wife, Molly, when he was a medical student and Molly was working as a nurse at Great Ormond Street Hospital. They married in 1943 while he was on two days' sick leave which in effect became their honeymoon. Geoffrey and Molly were inseparable. They were keen on classical music and were ardent members of Opera North. They were competent water-skiers. Together, they attended meetings organised under the auspices of the Royal

College of Psychiatrists and conferences organised by the World Psychiatric Association and were probably one of the most well-travelled couples in any group.

Geoffrey retained considerable interest in clinical research and had publications on alcohol-related disorders, stress as a predictor in schizophrenia, comparative assessment of depot neuroleptics and the study of Capgras Syndrome. He was a sound clinician and his opinion was always based upon careful observation and clinical evidence. He was not given to emotional excesses and his manner towards everybody, including his patients, was immaculate. It is rightly said that he never retired from his work; just two days before he was admitted to hospital he had travelled a long distance to examine a patient at Rampton Hospital. After he retired from the NHS he continued to work privately and also in locum capacity in a number of psychiatric units in Yorkshire. Work was his life and he was never tired of psychiatry or psychiatric patients.

Geoffrey endured the pain and discomfort of his terminal illness with serene dignity. He died, aged 81, on 5 August 1999 and is survived by his wife, Molly, and their two children, Andrew and Tricia.

SASI MAHAPATRA



Robert Hugh Cawley, formerly Professor of Psychiatry, The Maudsley, London

Professor Robert (Bob) Cawley was one of the College's founding fathers who led members of the Royal College of Psychiatrists to believe that to 'let wisdom guide' is a most appropriate precept for our professional body.

He made an extremely distinguished contribution to the College's work: he was Chief Examiner from 1981 to 1988 and chaired a working party to review the examination. In both roles he recommended many of the principles which still govern the structure and conduct of the MRCPsych. He believed in the examination, seeing its format as appropriate for the subject of psychiatry in today's climate: as a scientist, he ensured that it had validity as well as reliability. He saw multiple choice papers as tests of certain kinds of factual knowledge and introduced the Clinical Examination into the Part I, believing in the importance of testing clinical skills at an early stage in the trainee's career. Further, he introduced the examination of clinical management into Part II as a substitute for a second clinical examination and instituted the training of examiners and the monitoring of results. A measure of his success is that there are far fewer complaints about the examinations from trainees in the Royal College of Psychiatrists than in other medical Royal Colleges.

Bob gained particular satisfaction from the involvement of psychiatric trainees in the deliberations of the working party, a development that has been embodied in how the College addresses psychiatric training ('ask the consumer'). This has played a major part in the healthy and constructive collaboration between senior and junior members, which takes place on matters of mutual interest.

Professor Cawley's contributions to medicine and psychiatry extended far beyond those to this College. He held senior positions at the Department of Psychiatry in Birmingham, the Bethlem and Maudsley Hospitals, King's College Hospital, the University of London, the Medical Research Council and many of its boards and committees, chairing the Neurosciences Board, as well as the Royal Air Force. Latterly, he was consultant at the Charter Nightingale Clinic, as well as consultant adviser to the Department of Health and Social Security (1984–1989).

Bob spent his early life in Birmingham, where he was born (in 1924), and was educated at Solihull School, going from there to read Zoology at the University of Birmingham. He then took a PhD in Lancelot Hogben's Department of Medical Statistics. Illness had interrupted his schooldays which threatened his reading medicine, but with Hogben's support he persevered. His medical studies were combined with part-time research posts in medical statistics and social medicine, which influenced his unusual breadth of outlook throughout his professional lifetime. This was