

Elections to the General Medical Council

Psychiatrists have a crucial role to play in assisting the work of the General Medical Council, particularly in relation to its health procedures. There are, at present, three psychiatrists on the General Medical Council, out of a total of 102.

Voting papers for election to the General Medical Council will be dispatched to registered doctors in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland in May 1994. You may wish to know that the following psychiatrists will be standing for election.

Professor Hamid Ghodse
Professor of Psychiatry, University of London

Dr Pearl Hettiaratchy
Consultant Psychiatrist in Old Age Psychiatry,
Winchester

Dr Paul McLaren
Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry, UMDS, London

Dr Keith Rix
Consultant Psychiatrist, Leeds

Professor Andrew Sims
Professor of Psychiatry, University of Leeds

Dr Mabel Tannahill
Consultant Psychiatrist, Denbigh, Wales.

VANESSA CAMERON, *The Secretary, Royal College of Psychiatrists*

Obituaries

Daud Mohammed Bassa, *Locum Consultant in Child Psychiatry, Chipstead, Surrey*

Daud Bassa, who was born in Durban on 22 December 1918, died in Delhi on 21 January 1993. He was a shy man whose deafness tended to underline his outsider image, but he was actually an unusual and deeply sensitive, lovable man, who affected quite deeply those who were close to him: family, friends and patients.

He came from an influential Indian family in Durban with relatives presently living in South Africa, Mauritius, Gujrat, Lancashire and London. Early in his life he had the experience of chauffeuring Mahatma Gandhi around South Africa.

He graduated MB BS from Grant Medical College, Bombay in 1947, and was active in politics during the struggle for Indian independence. His journey inwards on the one hand resulted in his being one of the few to train at that time in India as a psychoanalyst, but his powerful involvement in the world around him led him to take for some 20 years a pioneering research post working with slum families in Bombay. In the last years of this post he was awarded an honorary professorship in psychiatry and social work at Bombay University. His close study of familial and transcultural factors affecting patterns of child rearing was subsequently to enrich his practice, teaching and writing in London, where he moved with his

family in 1975, becoming a guest member of the British Psycho-Analytical Society. He was elected MRCPsych in 1971 and proceeded to the Fellowship in 1977.

After a succession of consultant locums, he played a leading role in the psychiatric management of the Royal Philanthropic Society's home for delinquent children until its closure.

He was redeployed in the Child Psychiatry Department of St George's Hospital from where he retired in 1983, but he continued locum work until his death. His understanding of distress in the family led him to stress family strategies which depended on his leading a team working together and communicating as a good family.

He had an abiding interest in transcultural psychiatry and, despite his last illness, journeyed to Lucknow in considerable discomfort to talk to the Indian Association of Psychiatrists because he cared passionately about communicating and understanding the themes of our common humanity across ethnic and cultural differences.

GERALD WOOSTER

David Gilmour (*formerly Director of Psychiatric Services, Dumbarton*)

David Gilmour was born in Dunfermline in 1908 and died in September 1993, in Glasgow, at the age of 85.

Gilmour went to Edinburgh University where he graduated MB CHB in 1934. He was attracted to psychiatry from the outset of his career and became an assistant physician at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital after graduation. He then obtained a position as a psychiatrist in Nottingham which was followed by a period in Winson Green Hospital, Birmingham. He then decided to come back to his native land and obtained a consultant post at the Hartfield Clinic, Dumbarton. He proceeded to the MD (Edin) in 1949, and in 1971 was elected FRCPsych (foundation). In Dumbarton, David developed an excellent service. He was, in essence, a 'community' psychiatrist, long before these became in vogue.

His responsibilities were for a wide area in that he provided an excellent service for local GPs and a liaison service for the physicians in the Vale of Leven Hospital. He did clinics at Dumbarton, at Hardgate and the Landsdowne Clinic in Glasgow, the latter being attached to Gartnavel Royal Hospital. For all his work David was highly regarded.

He retired in 1973 at the age of 65 but continued to do part-time sessions at the Douglas Inch Clinic in Glasgow (Forensic).

David's main interests, apart from his work, for most of his working life, had been the Church and his garden. He, and his wife, were important figures in the work of Bearsden South Church where he was an Elder for many years and where he also was held in very high regard.

Throughout his life, he was very ably supported by his wife and it was a major blow to him when she pre-deceased him by some two-and-a-half years. He had a son and a daughter of whom he was very proud, and particularly so because they were both doctors. His son, Douglas, is a consultant surgeon at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

A.I. CHEYNE

Richard V. Phillipson, OBE, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, United States Public Health Service, Battlefield Heights, Virginia, USA

Dr Phillipson died on 30 October 1993 aged 80 at Winchester Memorial Hospital, Berryville, Virginia.

Dr Phillipson was born in Dublin, Ireland where he received his medical degree from the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. He was an internationally recognised expert on the treatment of alcoholism and other drug addic-

tions both through his work in England and at the National Institutes on Alcohol Abuse and Drug Abuse, Rockville, Maryland. There he served as senior medical adviser to the Directors, and established the Career Teacher Program to train doctors to diagnose and treat alcoholism and other addictions. His reception at the White House by President and Mrs Reagan coincided with Phillipson's retirement and the signing ceremony that established national drug abuse education and prevention week. He lectured and published extensively.

Phillipson went to the USA from England in 1968 as a Visiting Scientist with the National Institute of Mental Health. In England he had served as Chief of Psychiatry of the British Army (1956–1961) and as a Senior Medical Officer in the Ministry of Health (1961–1968). He was a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Retired as Brigadier General from the British Army, he had been decorated with the OBE for his valour in the assault on Monte Cassino. He took part in the African campaign, and from 1941 to 1942 was a member of the military mission to Russia where he was medical officer for both the British and American Embassies.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a daughter from his first marriage; a stepdaughter; a stepson; and four grandsons.

The deaths of the following have also been reported:

GEORGE ARNOLD BETTS, formerly Deputy Medical Superintendent; 4 Great Headlands Road, Paignton, Devon TQ3 2DY.

WINIFRED MARY BURBURY, formerly Senior Lecturer in Child Psychiatry, University of Leeds.

HUGH BRECHIN CRAIGIE, formerly Senior Commissioner, General Board of Control, Scotland.

MARK LAWRENCE HARTMAN, Consultant Psychiatrist and Editor in Chief of the *Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine*; St Brendan's Hospital, PO Box 418, Rathdown Road, Dublin 7, Republic of Ireland.

RONALD CHARLES INGLEY-SENN, formerly Director, Prison Medical Services, Home Office.

JOHN MOHANDAS NALLAMUTHU KANAGASOORIAM, General Practice, The Health Centre, Aylesham, Kent CT3 3DU.

PETER KELLETT, Consultant Psychiatrist, St Clement's Hospital, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 8LS.

IAIN JAMES MACCAMMOND, formerly Physician Superintendent, Argyll and Bute Hospital, Scotland.

AXEL RUSSELL, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Oxford Regional Centre, Ontario, Canada.

JOHN JACKSON SLATER, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, St Matthews Hospital, Walsall, West Midlands.

JOHN TOWERS, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Graylingwell Hospital, Sussex.