

## Obituary

Editor: Henry R. Rollin

**HUGH BRIAN MCNAMEE, Consultant Psychiatrist, Ravenscraig Hospital, Greenock.**

Dr McNamee died at his home in Kilmacolm, on 23 May, 1987. He was aged 50.

Brian was educated in Glasgow, graduating at the University of Glasgow in 1960. After he completed his House Officer posts in Glasgow and Edinburgh, he held appointments at Senior House Officer, Registrar, and Senior Registrar grades at the Maudsley Hospital and Institute of Psychiatry, London, between 1963 and 1966. He then spent over a year as a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School and Clinical Fellow, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. Brian then returned to the United Kingdom where, after a further spell as Senior Registrar at the Maudesley, he was appointed Senior Lecturer at the University of Dundee and Consultant Psychiatrist to the Dundee General and Mental Hospitals. In 1969 Brian again crossed the Atlantic, on this occasion holding the posts of Physician-in-Charge of the Psychiatric Consultation and Liaison Service at Kingston General Hospital and Assistant Professor at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. He held these posts until 1972 at which time he became Assistant Professor at the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. When Brian finally returned to the United Kingdom in 1975, he was appointed Consultant Psychiatrist, based at Ravenscraig Hospital in Greenock. In addition to his general duties, Brian was an enthusiastic Clinical Tutor at Ravenscraig and his efforts in that area were much appreciated by his junior colleagues in training.

Brian, who was a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, maintained an interest in research throughout his career. He published widely, often with co-authors from other disciplines on many topics but principally affective disorders, alcohol and drug abuse, and more recently neuro-transmitter biochemistry.

He was a quiet and indeed a private man who found most of his pleasures at home with his family and in his garden. He enjoyed his regular holidays in Argyll, a part of the country he loved greatly and which afforded him every opportunity to indulge in his favourite pastime of walking.

He is survived by his wife, Rosemary and his son Shaun, to both of whom he was devoted.

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**MICHAEL EDWARD YORK-MOORE, formerly Consultant Psychiatrists, Lea Castle Hospital, Wolverley, Kidderminster, Worcs.**

Dr Michael York-Moore who was a Consultant Psychiatrist at Lea Castle Hospital, Kidderminster prior to his retirement in June 1985, died on 28 April, 1987 aged 61.

Michael York-Moore graduated from the London Hospital in June 1948. He won the Glanfield Harris Prize for Surgery whilst he was a student and was also introduced to the sharp end of social medicine, having been among the first group of doctors and medical students who entered Belsen Concentration Camp.

After qualifying, he worked first at the London Hospital and then carried out National Service in the RAMC in the Far East. On leaving the Army he married Rosemary, a chartered physiotherapist whom he had met during their training at the London Hospital. They moved to Norfolk where Michael worked for three years as an Assistant in General Practice and obtained the D (Obst) RCOG.

Changing direction, he undertook his training in psychiatry at the Belmont and Horton Hospitals, obtaining the DPM in 1957, following which he spent two years as Senior Medical Officer for Mental Health with Essex County Council. Resulting from this direct contact with families and mental handicap, he developed an overriding interest in this speciality and thereafter followed appointments at St Lawrence's, Caterham and Strathmartine Hospital, Dundee. During the latter, he was the Medical Superintendent and Honorary Lecturer in Mental Handicap at St Andrew's University.

He returned to Essex in 1965, where he was a Consultant Psychiatrist at the Royal Eastern Counties Hospital. He then moved to South Ockendon Hospital in 1968 as a Consultant Psychiatrist where in 1970 he set up a hospital for mentally handicapped children at Little Highwood, Brentwood. In 1976, he moved to Lea Castle Hospital where he was responsible for mental handicap services in Shropshire and a part of Birmingham.

He always made sure that he kept abreast of every development in the field of mental handicap and visited services as far apart as Scandinavia, Holland and North America. He gave much of his spare time to supporting the early development of the Association of Professions for the Mentally Handicapped and was an active panel member for the Mental Health Film Council. His knowledge and experience made him invaluable as an Associate Director of the British Institute of Mental Handicap. He had always been an active member of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, became a Foundation Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and later a Fellow. He became Secretary to the Mental Deficiency Section for a term.

A dedicated physician, he was devoted to his patients and their families which is not surprising in a man who invested so much in his own family life and who drew much contentment and satisfaction from their successes. An element of shyness made him prefer the company of small groups of friends for relaxation, but he could rise to the grand occasion. His hallmark was the meticulous care that he took with his work along with a willingness to listen to others. He