

in young girls (1968) in particular. His solidity, good sense and sagacity must have already been imprinted when he was *in utero*. Appointments as Chairman of the Maudsley Medical Committee Member of the Board of Governors, Presidencies and other offices to various organisations too numerous to be cited in detail followed in rapid succession. He served the College without interruption from his Secretaryship of the Child Psychiatry Section in 1954 until his Vice-Presidency in 1974–1976. Overlapping with them was his historically important post as Treasurer of the RMPA and Royal College from 1962–1979. He was made an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1979.

His was an unbeatable combination of rock-like solidity and well concealed subtlety of perception in financial matters. He would have made the fortunes of any Bank or business in the City. Although unflappable, he responded with a combination of grief and panic to potentially ruinous interest rates to which we were pledged under the terms of the huge loan (guaranteed) we were compelled to float in order to purchase 17 Belgrave Square. He suspected me in the first instance of having acted in a flight of elation. But his unswerving loyalty and trust kept our small group of officers together. When my insistence on a rescue operation to one of the influential guarantors of our loan resulted in an ingenious and highly favourable arrangement with an obscure and distant branch of Barclays Bank, Wilfred's equanimity was restored and his batteries recharged. The rest of the story is well known. The room named after him in the College is a well deserved tribute and an expression of the College's gratitude and admiration.

To round off the picture, there was a generosity of spirit, and a special kindness manifest in all sorts of minute particulars in his interactions at all levels in the College and elsewhere. He did such things by stealth. His delicate, impish sense of humour were invaluable to Council and other committees for deflating pretentiousness and ending long-winded eloquence but he rarely provoked anger and never made an enemy.

He was a very private man and glimpses into his inner life were rare. His was an unswerving loyalty to causes he espoused and we were fortunate that the purposes of the College were among them. I learnt, but not until we had worked together for two years, that his life had been enriched by a passion for the choral and instrumental music of Bach. He was a devoted family man and was survived by his wife Betty by only a month. They are mourned by their son Peter (a physician in Canada), their daughter Anne and their grandchildren. All those who had the privilege of his friendship and his cooperation in the life of the College are filled with a deep sense of loss at his passing.

MR

**JOHN DAVID YOUNG, retired Consultant Psychogeriatrician, ordained Minister of the Church of England and Director of The Churches Council of Health and Healing**

Dr Young died after a short illness on 5 February 1991, aged 59. He was educated at Bryanston School, Dorset and after two years National Service in the Royal Artillery, trained at University College, London, and graduated MBBS in 1958. After six years as a general practitioner in Norfolk and Suffolk he underwent



psychiatric training and took post as consultant psychiatric training and took post as consultant psychiatrist at St George's Hospital, Stafford in 1971. He went on to become the first psychogeriatrician in the West Midlands, setting up St Chad's EMI Unit at St George's Hospital. For many years he was Clinical Tutor, Honorary Senior Lecturer, University of Birmingham. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1984.

Throughout his career John had a particular interest in the role of personality in the lives of his patients and its effect on the way they cope with stress and illness. It was while working as a GP that he came to appreciate the significance of psychological factors in the aetiology and presentation of illness. This stimulated an increasing interest in psychiatry and lead to his undertaking psychiatric training. His background in general practice profoundly influenced his approach to psychiatry. He was just as concerned with his patients' physical as mental health.

At a time when it was unfashionable, he saw the need for a specialised service for the elderly and established St Chad's Unit which became a major centre for post graduate training in psychogeriatrics in the West Midlands region. John's zeal as a teacher and his enthusiasm for the elderly did much to promote the cause of psychogeriatrics.

He trained a steady stream of senior registrars who went on to become consultant psychogeriatricians who established their own services. His skill as a teacher was recognised with an Honorary Senior Lectureship at Birmingham University. Together with a few colleagues he helped to form the West Midlands Association of Psychogeriatricians. He was very active in the Royal College of Psychiatrists and was on the Executive Committee of the Section of Old Age.

John was a deeply committed Christian. His faith permeated his life, his work, his professional

relationships and his practice of psychiatry. He believed in the wholeness of people – mind, body and spirit – and that none of these aspects was independent of the other, that illness had to be treated in the context of the whole person by addressing the physical, psychological and spiritual needs of the patient. He was a founder member of the British Group of Medicine of the Whole Person, an international organisation of Christian doctors led by the late Paul Tournier, which shared his outlook and promoted the concept of Christian healing.

John applied this concept of wholeness to his own life. His religious conviction led him after 19 years as a Licensed Reader to undertake theological training at Queen's College, Birmingham. He was ordained Priest of the Church of England in 1983 and served as an Honorary Assistant Priest at St Mary's Church, Stafford.

He never thought of himself as having two separate careers, doctor and priest. He saw these as two aspects of the same work, that of healing and serving God. Inevitably he was deeply involved in the Churches' Ministry of Healing. He took early retirement in 1987 to undertake a year's Research Fellowship in the Ministry of Healing and the contribution of Paul Tournier.

In 1988 he was appointed Director of the Churches' Council for Health and Healing. This work caused him to travel extensively in Britain and Europe as well as India and Australia. He was concerned to disseminate a Christian concept of healing which distinguished between curing and healing; curing being the removal of symptoms, healing being the restoration of wholeness, using the experience of illness in forming a new relationship with God and enabling a process of personal growth to develop new attitudes to difficulties and thereby overcome them. The process might or might not be accompanied by a cure of the illness. He energetically discouraged the idea

that healing was about theatrical instant miracle cures and the abandonment of established medical treatments.

In his life he utilised his understanding of personality to bring together people of opposing views and to help resolve differences, a gift he used both in the Health Service to enhance his role in medical committees and in the Church where he worked for reconciliation and unity as a dedicated supporter of the ecumenical cause.

Shortly before his death he returned to the Health Service as a non-executive director of the newly formed Mental Health Foundation of Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust.

John was much respected and loved by his colleagues, doctors and clergy, patients and parishioners. He gave himself completely to his work and inspired others. He gained fulfilment in the knowledge that he served his God and his fellow men. He leaves behind him three adult children and his wife, Sheila, who shared in much of his work and without whose support he could not have achieved so much.

AGD

**The deaths of the following have also been reported:**

GEORGE MORRISON CARSTAIRS, formerly Professor of Psychological Medicine, University of Edinburgh.  
MAUREEN COLLINS-WALSH, Consultant Psychiatrist, Brothers of Charity Services, Bawnmore, Limerick, Republic of Ireland.

LIONEL DALRYMPLE GARDNER, formerly Physician Superintendent, Ballamona Hospital, Isle of Man.

FRED JOHN, Consultant Psychiatrist, Glanrhyd Hospital, Wales.

HELENE JOHANNA TOMINGAS, formerly Sunnyside Royal Hospital, Scotland.



**Sir Thomas Smith Clouston (1840–1915)**  
Medical Superintendent, Cumberland and Westmoreland Asylum, Carlisle, 1863–73;  
President the Medico-Psychological Association, 1888.