

rehabilitation services, constantly stressing the need to let the under-privileged – the prisoners, the patients, the school children – talk freely to one another and make their own discoveries. He was always an exciting contributor to any conference, challenging the pompous and self-assured, asking the unexpected questions.

In his later years a failing heart limited his excursions, but his mind remained as fresh as ever, always a new enthusiasm, always a fresh delight. He became interested in spiritual issues; while not conceding the rational scepticism of a Scots scientific upbringing, he began to speak of the need for our society to concern itself with spiritual values.

Max used to speak of himself as a “change agent”; that he certainly was. He deployed charm, intelligence and erudition in every situation, challenging, questioning, teasing those he met. He changed the lives of many colleagues and patients, he changed several institutions permanently, and he made a major contribution to the permanent change in British mental hospitals. Thanks to him and a few others we shall never slide back into the prison-like asylums, with their locked doors, punitive attendants and patients forbidden to talk to one another. Through his long career Max published steadily and leaves seven books which describe his social experiments, expound his beliefs and at times catch the flavour of the excitement he engendered and the magic of his personality.

Max leaves three daughters from his first marriage, Chris his third wife who helped him devotedly through the last 15 years, and a host of inspired and devoted friends in many professions.

DHC

**RUDOLPH RODRIGUEZ-ARGANARAS, formerly
Consultant Child Psychiatrist to the London Borough
of Bromley**

Dr Rudolph Rodriguez-Arganaras was born in San Diego Del Estero, in Argentina in 1923. Although his father was a veterinary surgeon, the medical tradition in his family extends back for seven generations, first in Spain and more recently in the Argentine. He qualified from the University of Buenos Aires in 1950. While still a medical student, he took an active role in the student union and in human rights issues. As a consequence he led a demonstration against the regime of General Peron, was arrested and spent a short period in prison as a political prisoner.

Soon after qualifying he became the RMO at the Hospital de Clinicas, the main teaching hospital of Buenos Aires. In 1952 he joined the staff of the British Hospital in Buenos Aires and it was there that

his interest in psychiatry was stimulated by the late Professor Kraps whose speciality was psychosomatic illness. He was advised to go to England to seek further training at the Maudsley. Although he arrived at the Maudsley as a clinical assistant, his ability and enthusiasm were soon noticed and he was quickly taken on as an SHO and registrar in the Maudsley training scheme. It was necessary for him to requalify in medicine in order to practise in the UK and he took the MRCS LRCP in 1961 and proceeded to the MRCP in 1963. He was elected MRCPsych in 1972 and FRCPSych in 1987.

During his training years at the Maudsley he met Lionel Hersov and Paul Sandifer who stimulated his interest in child psychiatry, as a result of which he became the senior registrar in the Children's Department between 1963–66.

His first consultant post was in the Barking Child Guidance Clinic, but in 1967 he joined the Bromley Area Health Authority and worked in the Bromley Child Guidance Clinic and at Sydenham Hospital for many years.

Dr Rodriguez was greatly skilled in individual work with children and he derived great pleasure in his daily contact with children. He was an outstanding leader of the child guidance clinic team. The core of his work was always based on the very careful investigation and analysis of the presenting evidence by both the family and the child. From this he worked patiently to help parents take a wider view of their family problems in order to enable them to understand their child better. He was unfailingly courteous even in very demanding and stressful situations. He had a quiet sense of humour which often took the heat out of stormy family crises.

The children he treated always regarded him as a friend. In later life when some of his clients presented to colleagues in the adult department they invariably recalled their time with Dr Rodriguez with much warmth and affection.

Dr Rodriguez was an erudite man who during his early years in medicine wrote many papers on purpura and other haematological topics. He also translated standard English medical textbooks into Spanish, some of which remain in use. He worked extremely hard and single-handedly ran the Child Psychiatric Service for a large London Borough, and he would have been amused to hear that his two successors are now pressing for a third colleague.

In 1987 he was forced to retire at the age of 64 on medical grounds. He had three pleasant years in his retirement studying French literature, but at the beginning of 1990 died after a brief illness. He is survived by one son who has followed him into medicine and now works in oncology.

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