

# Obituary

**JOSHUA BIERER, 140 Harley Street, London W1**

Dr Joshua Bierer, outstanding psychiatrist and pioneer in social psychiatry, died in Tenerife on 22 November 1984, at the age of 83.

Born in Radautz, Austria, to a distinguished family in which all male members for three generations were medical doctors, his great grandfather was Court physician to the King of Serbia and a great friend of Theodor Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement.

Dr Bierer received his early education in Austria, training in Individual Psychology with Professor Alfred Adler and Dr A. Neuner. After completing his training-analysis he was appointed to the Teaching Institute in Individual Psychology in Berlin in 1928. At this time he carried out pioneering work in psychotherapy at mental hospitals in Vienna and in 1938 he was awarded his MD. With the rise of Nazism he left Austria for England. In 1938 he was appointed the first psychotherapist in a public mental hospital (Runwell). He founded the first therapeutic community.

After a brief period as a clinical assistant at Guy's Hospital, he joined the RAMC in which he served for most of the war. In 1946 he founded a social psychotherapy centre, named the Marlborough Day Hospital, which was the first hospital of this kind in the world.

He had many 'firsts' to his credit: Founder and Editor of the *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, Founder and Chairman of the Institute of Social Psychiatry, Founder and Chairman of the British Association of Social Psychiatry.

He published extensively, mainly in community care and rehabilitation of mental patients with chronic disabilities. Papers included 'Treatment of Psychotic Patients in Mental Hospitals', 'Out-patient Psychotherapy' and (with Professor R. I. Evans) 'Innovations in Social Psychiatry'.

He was an enthusiastic lecturer, much in demand both in the UK and abroad. He was one of the Jewish exiles from Austria and Nazi Germany who have enriched British psychiatry and contributed widely to its present status. An upright man, caring and full of humanity, he fought for all those who were deprived and under-privileged. He was very proud of his Jewish heritage and with his twin brother, Immanuel, he co-founded the Movement of Hashomer Hatzair (the Young Guard) and two of the first kibbutzim in Israel (Bet Alpha and Mishmar Haemek).

RG

**JAMES MILLAR CARLISLE, Consultant Psychiatrist, Leverdale Hospital, Glasgow, Scotland.**

Dr J. M. Carlisle, a Consultant Psychiatrist in Glasgow, died on 28 October 1984. He was 48.

James Millar Carlisle was born in Glasgow on 23 January 1936. He was educated at Shawlands Academy, Glasgow and then at Glasgow University where he graduated in 1960. After house appointments in Law Hospital, Carlisle and the Eastern District Hospital in Glasgow he began his psychiatric training at the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow. He was appointed Consultant Psychiatrist at Leverdale Hospital in 1966.

Jim's clinical acumen, quiet kindness and compassion, and his conscientious attention to all his patients deservedly earned him the respect of patients and colleagues. His particular clinical interests lay in the forensic field and for almost twenty years he had the responsibility of the hospital's male intensive psychiatric care ward which includes the rehabilitation of some former State Hospital patients. His professional expertise with this particularly difficult group also gained him the respect of lawyers and administrators.

Throughout his consultancy, Jim also had the medical administrative responsibility for the hospital's large Industrial Therapy Unit which has provided an effective rehabilitation experience for many patients whose stay in hospital might otherwise have been indefinite.

Despite an illness in 1977, from which he made a good recovery, he never complained, remained quietly cheerful, and continued to give faithful service to his patients and the Health Service. JKB

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

RUTH BLUNDEN, retired, formerly Senior Registrar, Great Peter Street, London SW1.

GODWIN EIKEME ANEWKE IZUORA, Consultant Psychiatrist, Psychiatric Hospital Ministry of Health Centre, 10 Abakali Road, Enugu, Nigeria.

FRANK KANE, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Shelton Hospital, Shrewsbury.

NORMAN FRASER MACKENZIE, 4 Barkly Street, Cromarty, Ross, Scotland.

CHRISTINA MARQUIS SCOTT, Consultant Psychiatrist, Lennox Castle Hospital, Lennoxtown, Scotland.

HARVEY J. TOMPKINS, Professor of Psychiatry, 157 Chapel Road, Manhasset, New York 11030, USA.

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## ***Patients with Informants at the MRCPsych 'Clinical'***

The Court of Electors has recently approved the proposal that mentally handicapped adults and demented patients, with informants, may be included as cases for the clinical examination in the Membership Examination. The candidate will have to interview both an informant and the patient and examine the patient in the course of one hour.

A mock examination along these lines has indicated that this procedure can be followed satisfactorily. These patients with informants will be introduced gradually, initially at a limited number of centres, from November 1985.

J. L. T. BIRLEY  
Dean