

**Dr Ian Berg****Formerly Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Leeds General Infirmary**

Ian Berg was born on 16 April 1932 in Sunderland. Sadly, his father died when he was only 4 years old, and his mother then took him and his older sister to Leeds where he spent the rest of his childhood. His medical training was at Leeds Medical School where he qualified MB,

ChB (MD in 1965), and in 1956, he went to McGill University in Montreal for psychiatric training. He then worked as a registrar in child psychiatry at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London. Later, he moved to Edinburgh for senior registrar training with Dr Margaret Methven.

He was elected Member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) (Ed) in 1961 and a Fellow in 1979. In 1961, he passed the Royal College of Psychiatrists' membership exam (MRCPsych) and was elected Fellow of the College in 1978.

Ian was appointed Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Leeds General Hospital, High Royds and Scalegate Park hospitals, and Honorary Senior Lecturer at Leeds University in 1966. All his life he was passionately interested in advancing knowledge of his subject through scientific enquiry, but his main interest was in school refusal and truancy.

In the 1970s he teamed up with the chairman of the local juvenile magistrates' court, Roy Hullin, to carry out a trial of sentencing procedure in boys who were persistently truanting. This was the first occasion in which judicial decisions had been subjected to scientific evaluation in this country.

In 1971, Ian proposed that a Child Psychiatry Research Club (now Society) should be founded; the first meeting was held in May 1972. Membership was open to child and adolescent psychiatrists actively engaged in research. It was, and remains, a particular feature of the Society that researchers are encouraged to present not completed research but research at a very early stage or in progress. This means that the input of other members can be taken into account as the research progresses. Ian was elected the first Secretary of the Society and attended meetings regularly until shortly before his death. In addition, he was at various times Secretary and then Academic Secretary of the Child Psychiatry Section of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and Academic Secretary for the 1991 London Conference of the European Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. He was also a Founder Member of the Association for the Psychiatric Study of Adolescents.

Although his main interest was in research, Ian carried out his clinical and teaching duties in Leeds with great conscientiousness. He was a most thoughtful, reflective, thorough clinician. Naturally, therefore, he was much in demand for medico-legal cases on which he continued to give opinions until just before he died. After his retirement in 1997, he worked as a locum consultant all over the UK, in Dumfries, Aberdeen, London, Newcastle, Cleveland and many other places.

Ian and his wife were Francophiles; they had a house in France and Ian had many professional contacts with French child and adolescent psychiatrists, whose meetings he often attended. He and Jennifer had three children, two sons and a daughter, all of whom survive him.

Ian died of hepatocellular carcinoma which was diagnosed only a few weeks before his death on 18 September 2009.

**Philip Graham**

doi: 10.1192/pb.bp.110.029355

**Dr John Hope Henderson****Formerly Medical Director, St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton**

Just a few weeks before he died of stomach cancer, aged 80, John Henderson rang me up at home. He wanted to complain about the medical elitism of a journal that could rename itself *The Psychiatrist* and to know why I had not done anything about it. He chided us in that firm but gentle Borders burr,

then told me about the progress of his illness as if it were just another minor irritation to be tackled.

Right on, John! Right on to the end. For this was a man who had his priorities in order; a man of such generosity of vision that any insularity, geographical or professional, would have been anathema. During his life he straddled every

boundary in sight – between doctor and patient, hospital and community, practitioner and management, and all the disciplines involved in mental health. He worked on three continents and in all three sectors, public, private and voluntary. He fought alongside politicians in pursuit of better services and fearlessly took them to task when patients' rights were being abused. He was a man at home in many cultures but with his life firmly grounded in his family. And he never lost sight of the fact that, among all this seriousness, it should also be fun.

John was born on 2 November 1929 in Galashiels, but moved to Aberdeen in his early childhood. He went through school in Aberdeen and Edinburgh (Melville College) before qualifying at the University of Aberdeen Medical School in 1954. After national service in the Royal Army Medical Corps in Kenya, he returned to train in psychiatry under Professor Malcolm Miller at the Royal Cornhill Hospital in Aberdeen and to take up successive posts as physician superintendent, first at Bilbohall Hospital, Elgin, and then at the Bangour Village Hospital, near Edinburgh. Already, he showed himself a pioneer in new ways of working with staff, patients and their families,

within primary care, community and new-built modern hospital facilities. He passed his MRCPsych in 1956 and was elected FRCPSych in 1976.

In 1974, John made the leap from service leadership to international advisor. For 2 years he was Principal Medical Officer in Mental Health at the Scottish Home and Health Department and was then appointed advisor to the World Health Organization's (WHO) South-East Asia Office, based in New Delhi, where he and his wife Toshie lived for 4 years. They returned to the WHO's European Office in Copenhagen for 5 years, before John became Medical Director of St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, where he remained until his clinical retirement in 1993.

Throughout his travels, John worked tirelessly to bring community, professional and political leaders together to improve the lot of people with mental health problems, and took courageous stands against the worst excesses of institutional abuse in the countries of the old Soviet bloc in Eastern Europe and on the notorious Greek island of Leros. His diplomatic skills, his persuasiveness from the public platform and the bravery he showed when all else failed are legendary among his fellow battlers. In between times, he and his wife welcomed with open arms all who managed to reach them in whatever corner of the world they were living.

Not surprisingly, John was never going to take easily to retirement and he was soon dedicating himself to a pan-European strategy for mental health, as President of the European Council of the World Federation of Mental Health and as a founder member and Policy Advisor to Mental Health Europe, the largest non-governmental organisation for mental health on the continent. I have vivid memories of the dramatic

speech he delivered to the Ministerial Conference in 2005 and of his quieter attempts to lead the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Ariadne-like, in and out of the Minotaur's lair in Brussels. The fact that both were ultimately rebuffed did not deter him in the slightest. Not for nothing was his middle name Hope.

John retreated at the last to the shelter of his devoted family, to Toshie, his wife of 52 years, his four sons, two of whom had followed him into mental health, his ten grandchildren and two step-grandchildren, and to the friends, colleagues and admirers he had gathered around him over the years. He was a rugby player and referee of distinction, a skilled mountaineer who had climbed with some of Scotland's best from his earliest days in the Lairig Mountaineering Club, a regular skier from his chalet in the Pyrenees, a gardener, a wine buff, and a cook of passionate if sometimes anarchic technique.

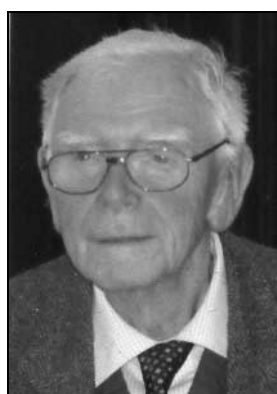
Above all, John was a wonderful companion – whether you were floating down some foreign river on a tide of wine and anecdotes or sharing a bottle of whisky and a mutual contempt for bureaucracy around his fireside in Haddington. He was what we would call in Wales a simply 'lovely' man – warm, generous, wise and loyal. I have no idea whether he was tall or not, but he always seemed so. When his spare frame came into view, everything seemed a little brighter and more possible. He died on 4 January 2010.

I promised to write to *The Psychiatrist* after your call, John. Instead, I find myself writing this obituary, and raising a glass or three in your memory. We shall miss you dearly.

Mike Shooter

doi: 10.1192/pb.bp.110.029918

### Dr Martin M. Whittet, OBE, MB.Ch.B., MB ChB, DPM, FRCP (Ed. and Glas.), FRCPSych, JP.



Martin Whittet was born in Glasgow on 12 November 1918. Both his parents were teachers. His secondary education was at Glasgow High School, where his father taught art. In 1942 he graduated from Glasgow University Medical School and moved on to pre-registration posts at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. After full registration he was appointed, in 1943, to Glasgow Royal Mental Hospital, rising to the post of Deputy

Physician Superintendent. In 1951, aged 33, he became Physician Superintendent at Craig Dunain Hospital, Inverness, responsible for mental healthcare in the Highlands and Islands, at which time he was the youngest doctor ever appointed to such a post. He set about modernising his hospital and changing public attitudes to mental health. To further this aim, he travelled widely in the Highlands, giving lectures to the lay public by invitation. His special interests were in alcoholism, depression, psychosexual problems and forensic psychiatry. He

was a major contributor to the medical literature in his own field of psychiatry and published several books of interest to the public at large.

His contribution to medicine was recognised by the award of OBE in 1973. He initiated and was a lifelong strong supporter of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Highlands. Nationally, he was a Government Psychiatric Advisor to Scotland and Psychiatric Consultant to HM armed forces and HM prisons. His post demanded an appreciable amount of travelling, often by motor car, for which he had a driver who was the Craig Dunain farm lorry driver. I was duly impressed by this unusual member of his team, who was good company for many a mile, since Martin himself was not keen about driving. After retirement he passed this chore onto his wife to whom he also passed on much advice from the passenger seat.

Craig Dunain, when Martin arrived there, had a farm and a large pond in a tree-sheltered area of the grounds. When he left at retirement the hospital had an ornamental pool with ducks and other waterfowl, a soccer pitch, tennis courts, a nine-hole golf course, and a bowling green. His kindness, care and humanity were outstanding. There was always a coin or two in his pocket for children he met, and always a dog biscuit too for his dog friends. He retired in 1983 and pursued golf, fishing and the cultures of Gaeldom, including music, even learning Gaelic. In addition to direct clinical practice, he still