

NEWSLETTER No 20

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QUEEN SQUARE NEWS

DEATHS

It is with sadness that we report the death of PAMELA ("PADDY") MARGARET LE QUESNE (nee FULLERTON) in August 1999

Paddy Fullerton, as she was known when she began to establish her international reputation, was something of an icon for women wishing to enter the specialty of neurology in the 60' s.

As one of her distinguished younger contemporaries recalls she had a formidable reputation as the first woman since the Second World War to have been appointed to the House at the National Hospital, Queen Square, and even before this to have attracted wide attention by her description of the neuritis which complicated the use of thalidomide. But those who met her were at once at ease because of her warmth, kindness, infectious enthusiasm and her sense of fun.

Paddy won a scholarship to Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, in 1949 and graduated BA in 1952 and B.Sc. in 1954. She won a scholarship to the Middlesex Hospital in 1952 and graduated in Medicine in 1956. Membership of the Royal College of Physicians followed in 1959. Her interest in

In 1970 she married Leslie LeQuesne, professor of surgery at the Middlesex Hospital. As she said at the time she thought she could do two jobs well, but not three; marriage was the given, and since research could be more easily accommodated to family life than clinical neurology could, she resigned her post as Consultant Neurologist at the Middlesex, but continued to work there as a member of the Medical Research Council's Toxicology Unit. Her great clinical skills were not lost to medicine altogether. She became an honorary consultant to the Middlesex and to the National Hospital Queen Square.

Paddy LeQuesne was a fine teacher, both in the lecture room and in the laboratory, where she trained a succession of young neurologists. Her didactic skills and her scientific contribution were recognised in 1980 by the award of the Triennial Pewterer's Lectureship at the Institute of Neurology.

Beyond medicine she had wide interests which she pursued with the same energy and attention to detail that she gave to her work. Music was an abiding passion. Typical of her style was her preparation for one of the Ring Cycles at Covent Garden in the 1960s. She summoned a small group of friends (including Bryan Magee, a friend from Oxford days who was already an authority on Wagner). Together they listened to the Solti recording beginning on a Friday night and finishing on Sunday afternoon, with intervals for erudite discussion over excellent meals which she prepared and invigorating walks on nearby Hampstead Heath. In retirement she returned to studying the piano with notable success.

Pamela LeQuesne's family was the centre of her life. She and Leslie developed many of their interests together, both intellectual and out-door; their house in Devon was a particular joy. She was immensely proud of their two sons. Her final illness, cancer, was a long one, courageously borne. She made light of its manifestations and continued to show her characteristic zest for life and concern for others to the end. She is survived by her husband and sons.

(This obituary was written by Ian McDonald)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Professor Ian McDonald has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of University College London.

Professor Chris Frith, Wellcome Department of Cognitive Neurology, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in May 2000.

Professor Ray Dolan and Professor Karl Friston, have been made Fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

OTHER NEWS

The unit will treat around 300 patients a year and will become a

DR.KALYANBRATABHATTACHARYA

Dr. Bhattacharya attended the Mansell Bequest Symposium held in London 1998 as a guest of the London Medical Society. His article 'British Neurology and Movement Disorders - an account of the historical development of the subject' is scheduled to be published in a book edited by Dr. Clifford Rose

He was appointed a Visiting Fellow in the Movement Disorders Unit at King's College Hospital London in May 1998, where he presented a video collection of rare movement disorders in India. He also presented this video at Queen Square.

Dr. Bhattacharyya has recently retired from his post as Honorary Secretary of the Indian Autonomic Society and has been elected as Honorary Member of the National Academy of Medical Sciences in India for his contribution to the field of medical sciences.

DR. SUTHIPUN JITPIMOLMARD from the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand, was appointed Professor of Neurology in February 1999.

Congratulations to both Suthipun Jitpimolmard and Kalyanbrata Bhattacharyya on their appointments.