

Obituary

Dr Frederick Smith

The Editor apologises to the author for the late publication of this obituary.

Dr Frederick Smith, known to all his friends and colleagues as Fred, died on 2 December 2008, following a major stroke. He was aged 80.

He graduated from Manchester University Medical School in 1951. During his two-year training post at Salford Royal Infirmary he met Marjorie, his wife, then a casualty sister.

He chose to take a short service commission in the RAMC rather than the two years' national service required then. He spent most of the three years in North Africa. On returning to England, he did a rotating internship at Northampton General Hospital, then returned to Manchester to work in public health. During this period, he gained diplomas in child health, public health, industrial health, and obstetrics.

A Nuffield scholarship enabled him to carry out a survey of outpatient consultations in Lancashire NHS hospitals. His findings provided the basis of his MD thesis.

In 1964, he came to Morecambe to work in general practice. Academic medicine continued to be an absorbing interest. He was elected to a fellowship at the Royal College of General

Practitioners and while working in general practice became MRCP(ED) and FRCS(ED). It is thought that he assured the surgical examiners that he did not intend to set up in independent surgical practice. He did work as a hospital practitioner in urology, where he used hypnotherapy to help phobic patients tolerate chemotherapy.

During a sabbatical, he spent several months with Marjorie working as a locum general practitioner in Newfoundland. This renewed his enthusiasm for working overseas.

He retired from his practice, which by then was a partnership of seven doctors, in 1988. For the next ten years he divided his time between holidays and periods of work abroad, often in Saudi Arabia. He was working in Kuwait at the time of the Gulf War. He retired finally in 1998.

He was always a lively and cheerful companion.

Dr GC Jackson

The Editor is pleased to receive obituaries on colleagues in the health community.

The Morecambe Bay Medical Journal Prize *for the best article by a junior doctor*

A prize of £200 is awarded each year to the author of what is judged to be the best article published in the *Journal*.

The prize is open to all junior doctors and the winner of the 2009 prize will be announced in the Summer 2010 issue of the *Journal*.