SERVICE NEWS

OBITUARIES

SURGEON CAPTAIN J. JOHNSTON MB ChB RN Retd died in RNH Haslar on 16 April 1983.

Surgeon Rear Admiral D. P. Gurd CB writes:

‘Johnnie’ Johnston was a much liked member of the Royal Naval Medical Service and every social occasion was brightened by his appearance. He was a man of a very compassionate nature, a natural doctor, and an ideal senior colleague for the newly joined. His father died when he was very young and he was forever grateful to the Masonic Order for his early education at their school in Dublin. His early naval career was spent in seagoing ships and after nine years of service he was selected for postgraduate training in genito-urinary surgery.

I served with Johnnie in HMS Maine at the outbreak of the war and travelled home with him from Egypt via the Cape of Good Hope. His company enlivened and reassured a mixed civilian and Service passenger complement during what was quite a hazardous voyage. His subsequent appointments were for the greater part as Staff Medical Officer. He was promoted to Surgeon Captain in 1952, retiring five years later to join the pharmaceutical firm of Smith Kline & French. Here his cheerful, gregarious nature was given full scope, his duties including the arrangement of closed circuit television displays and lectures followed by convivial luncheons. When a former naval colleague was interviewed with a view to joining the same firm, the selection board advised him not to attempt to imitate Dr Johnston for that was quite impossible.

Johnnie was a kindly friend and a loyal colleague. He spoke his mind and was straight and true. A touching quality was his unfailing gratitude to those who had helped him along the road of life. He never forgot them.

SURGEON CAPTAIN E. J. MOCKLER MB DPH RN Retd.

Surgeon Commodore G. J. Milton-Thompson writes:

Surgeon Captain Mockler, who died on 20 January 1983 after a short illness, had an unusual and interesting career. Born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1902 he qualified from the National University of Ireland in 1924. After resident hospital appointments, he joined the Medical Branch of the Royal Air Force as a Flying Officer in 1926, going out to India in the same year. After three years in India he resigned his commission, proceeded to do the DPH and in 1932 joined the Royal Navy. After serving in Resolution, he joined Queen Elizabeth in 1933, being promoted Surgeon Lieutenant Commander later that year. He subsequently saw service in Singapore, South Africa, Mombasa, Hong Kong and Malta as a public health specialist, and did staff jobs in the Medical Department and Naval Air Command. He was promoted Surgeon Captain in December 1952 and retired on age in 1959.

Eamon Mockler is remembered by those still serving as a kind and friendly senior officer, readily approachable and famous for his prowess on the tennis court. He had played at Wembley in earlier days and continued to play a high quality game notable for craft rather than hard hitting. In his retirement he devoted his energies to his charming and historic country house near Abingdon where visiting parties of Service wives were made particularly welcome.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

SURGEON COMMANDER R. E. LAUDER MRCS LRCP RN Retd died at RNH Haslar on 15 February 1983 at the age of 76.

Robert Lauder entered the Royal Navy as a Surgeon Lieutenant in 1937 and, following a short period at RNH Haslar, served in HMS Royal Oak, Royal Sovereign and Resolution. His wartime appointments included RNB Chatham, HMS Coventry, HMS Vela for 64th General Hospital and 7th RM Battalion. Following promotion to Surgeon Commander in 1952 he served in HMS Cerberus, as SMO HMS Osprey, and his final appointment before retirement in 1962 was at RNB Portsmouth.

SURGEON COMMANDER M. J. BROSAN MB BCh RN Retd died in County Kerry on 15 November 1982 at the age of 80.

Michael Brosnan graduated from the National University of Ireland in 1928 and entered the Royal Navy as a Surgeon Lieutenant the same year. He was promoted to Surgeon Lieutenant Commander in 1934 and to Surgeon Commander in 1940, serving in HMS Newcastle, Excellent and Duke of York. He was placed on the Retired List medically unfit in 1949, and was subsequently in general practice in Greenwich until his retirement in 1976.

SURGEON COMMANDER P. R. T. WOOD MB BS MRCP RN Retd

Surgeon Commodore G. J. Milton-Thompson writes:

Peter Wood died on 14 January 1983 after several years of recurring ill-health. He was born in 1928 and educated at Okehampton Grammar School and St Thomas’s Hospital. After resident appointments he joined the
RNVR for National Service in 1953, taking an RN Short Service Commission in 1955. Leaving the Service in 1959, he worked as Assistant County Medical Officer in West Sussex before becoming a registrar in geriatrics at Worthing Hospital. During this time, he joined the RNR, returning to full-time service in the Royal Navy in 1966. Serving in RNH Haslar, Fearless and Drake, he worked hard to get the MRCP which he obtained in 1973, and was profoundly disappointed that his age precluded a career as a physician in the Navy. In 1973 he went to CTCRM Lympstone as PMO where he succeeded in achieving his green beret at the age of 45.

Peter Wood left the Service in 1977 to return to geriatric medicine, in due course being appointed Consultant Geriatrician to the North Devon Infirmary.

Peter was a man of exuberant personality, firm opinions firmly stated, and a commendable persistence in the pursuit of objectives dear to his heart. He will be sadly missed by his friends and colleagues, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

**SURGEON LIEUTENANT (D) P. HODGSON BDS RN** died on 27 January 1983 whilst on an arctic warfare training exercise in Norway with 42 Commando Royal Marines.

Peter Hodgson was born in Birkenhead on 31 March 1952. He was educated at Birkenhead School, Merseyside, and on leaving school read science at the University of Leeds for a year before entering King's College Hospital, London, to study dentistry in 1974. He was Captain of his hospital's First Rugby XV in 1977 and was awarded a dental cadetship in the same year. On qualification he was appointed resident house surgeon to the oral surgery department at King's. Promoted to Surgeon Lieutenant (D) in 1979 he first served in HMS Nelson and Neptune before joining the Royal Marine Training Centre at Lympstone for the Commando course and gaining his green beret in 1980. He transferred from 41 Commando to 42 Commando in 1981 and saw service in the South Atlantic campaign, initially in SS Canberra and then ashore with the Commando in East Falkland. He married Anne Louise, whom he had known for several years, on his return to the United Kingdom in August 1982.

Peter's untimely and tragic death has deprived the Service of an exceptionally talented and highly regarded officer. A modest, unassuming but quietly determined character enabled him to achieve much for his few years—not the least of which was to gain the total respect and genuine friendship of all who knew him. Those who attended the funeral service at Birkenhead School heard testimony of his totally unselfish nature and of his service to others. This ranged widely over such differing activities as helping handicapped children and establishing a Boy's Brigade Band to professionally caring for Falkland Islanders in need. His natural aptitude for sport and athletics was developed by hard training and he found success at rugby, squash, swimming and long distance running. Essentially a gentle and sensitive man, he was an accomplished musician who shared a deep love of music with his wife, who is a professional singer. We extend our deepest sympathies to Anne Louise and the Hodgson family in their very great loss.

**RN MEDICAL AND DENTAL OFFICERS**

Admiral Harrison and Admiral Lambert during a visit to INM earlier this year.

**HONOURS & AWARDS**

Officer (Brother) of the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem
Surgeon Rear Admiral E. E. P. Barnard QHP
Surgeon Commander C. W. Chapman OBE

Commander-in-Chief Fleet's Commendation for service during the Falklands Campaign
Surgeon Lieutenant M. C. Newman

**HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Surgeon Commander A. P. Steele-Perkins—MFOM
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander D. C. B. Holt—MFOM
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander A. E. J. Hodges—AFOM
Surgeon Lieutenant C. E. Baron—AFOM

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To Surgeon Commander R. J. W. H. Butler, R. N.
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P. R. B. M.

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NEW
PROMOTIONS

To Surgeon Vice Admiral and appointed Medical Director General (Naval) on 26 June 1983
R. J. W. Lambert QHP

To Surgeon Rear Admiral (D) on 7 September and appointed Director Naval Dental Services on 14 September 1983

F. R. B. Mathias QHDS

To Surgeon Commodore and appointed Surgeon Commodore (Naval Medicine and Training) on 10 May 1983
J. W. Richardson OBE QHS

To Surgeon Lieutenant Commander
C. J. Davis; M. J. Fox

To Surgeon Lieutenant
G. M. Barker; V. J. Harten-Ash; J. M. Neary; S. P. L. Travis

To Surgeon Lieutenant (D)
S. P. T. Green; P. J. T. Robinson

To Acting Surgeon Lieutenant
A. J. G. Donovan

NEW ENTRIES
Surgeon Lieutenant (D) E. A. Ball
Surgeon Sub-Lieutenants: P. S. Ellis; S. A. Johnson; C. D. T. Low; C. A. C. Scott

APPOINTMENTS

As Surgeon Rear Admiral (Support Medical Services) on 24 May 1983
J. Cox OBE QHS

As Medical Officer in Charge Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, on 26 April 1983
Surgeon Captain J. B. Drinkwater

Surgeon Captain Drinkwater takes over from Surgeon Captain Richardson as MOIC RNH Haslar.

SENIOR SPECIALISTS AND SPECIALISTS
The following professional advancements are announced:

Senior Specialists
Medicine:
Surgeon Lieutenant A. R. O. Miller

Occupational Medicine:
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander J. C. D. Turner
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander C. J. Kalman

Surgeon Lieutenant Commander A. E. J. Hodges
Surgeon Lieutenant P. Litchfield
Surgeon Lieutenant T. J. R. Francis

General Surgery:
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander A. R. Mugridge
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander P. C. Runchman

Otorhinolaryngology:
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander M. C. Frampton
TRANSFER TO FULL CAREER COMMISSION
Surgeon Commander J. G. Williams;
Surgeon Lieutenant E. H. N. Oakley

TRANSFER TO MEDIUM CAREER COMMISSION
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander C. R. Kershaw;
Surgeon Lieutenant J. W. Turvill

RETIREMENTS
Surgeon Rear Admiral John Keeling CB E QHP leaves the Royal Navy after a varied career spanning nearly 37 years. He entered the Service in 1946 and, apart from an initial commission at HMS Royal Arthur, then a new entry training establishment, he was involved in the "air world" from 1947 to 1975. He served in air stations at home, in Sembawang and Hal Far, and was FMO of HMS Albion and HMS Victorious. Admiral Keeling served as President of the Central Air Medical Board from 1960 to 1963 and in 1973 was appointed Director of Environmental Medicine at the Institute of Naval Medicine and Deputy Medical Director General (Naval) in 1977. He was promoted Surgeon Rear Admiral in 1980 and became the first naval medical officer to be appointed Director of Medical Policy and Plans, in which post he served until his retirement earlier this year.

A warm man, he was 'sea daddy' to many medical officers who have reason to be grateful for his help and advice.

We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Surgeon Captain A. F. Davidson OBE, Command Medical Officer to Flag Officer Naval Air Command 1978–82, and latterly SNMO at the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough.

Surgeon Captain W. Whitrow formerly Head of Pathology, RHN Haslar, who is taking up an appointment at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness.

Surgeon Commander A. C. Chakraverty, formerly Consultant in Orthopaedic Surgery at RHN Plymouth, and now at St Bernard's Hospital, Gibraltar.

PLACED ON EMERGENCY LIST
Surgeon Lieutenant S. Beck; 
Surgeon Lieutenant D. P. Timms

RETIRED OFFICERS
Surgeon Captain P. W. Head OBE RN Retd has been admitted to the grade of Commander (Brother) of the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem.

Surgeon Captain D. S. Wright MFCA MFOM MSc has succeeded Surgeon Captain T. P. Oliver as the second Professor of Naval Occupational Medicine. Surgeon Captain Wright is Head of Occupational Medicine Services and Director of Health at the Institute of Naval Medicine.

Surgeon Commander D. J. McKay, Head of Undersea Medicine Division, INM, has been appointed County Surgeon, St John Ambulance, Isle of Wight.
Surgeon Captain (D) Brian Robinson receives the Harvey-Fletcher prize for 1983 from Surgeon Rear Admiral (D) P. R. J. Duley, Director of Naval Dental Services.

The Harvey-Fletcher Prize Trust Fund, from which an award of an inscribed medallion and a cheque can be made once every three years, was inspired by Surgeon Rear Admirals (D) Forrest and Hunter during their respective periods in office as DNDS. The prize is named after Staff Surgeon Christopher Harvey, who in the 1880s wrote a report entitled The Bluejackets' Teeth which drew attention to the appalling state of sailors' teeth, and Surgeon Rear Admiral (D) E. E. Fletcher CBE, the founding father of the Royal Naval Dental Services. The intention is that the award should encourage excellence in the performance of professional duties and be a means of recognising particular achievements which have enhanced the reputation of the Royal Naval Dental Services.

Following a close result last year, the Army were confident of victory this year. Injury problems meant that the Navy had players out of position. A particular loss was MT(1) (P) Milford, at fly-half. The Army won the toss and elected to play with the wind which they used to good advantage. Each time the Navy worked their way up to the Army line they were pushed back by the accurate line kicking of the Army fly-half. The Army went ahead with a simple penalty from inside the Navy 22 when a Navy forward was penalised for going over the top at a ruck. Shortly after they increased their lead to seven points, after driving the Navy forwards back over their own line at a five metre scrum, the ball popped out and the Army open side flanker grounded it. Before half-time MT(1) (P) Kay reduced the deficit with a well worked try by the Navy backs, who always looked dangerous with the ball. The Navy applied continuous pressure in the second half but lacked the finish until MA Massochi went over in the corner for an unconverted try. The Navy continued to push toward the Army line, only to be thwarted each time by giving away a penalty or the Army getting the ball away into touch. MA Adams eventually sealed the game for the Navy with two penalty goals from in front of the posts.

The final whistle ended the game with the score at 14–7 to the Navy. So once again Lieutenant P. Noble stepped up to receive the Luitpold Cup from Dr Max Clyne, Managing Director of Luitpold-Werk.

MEDICAL SERVICES OFFICERS

HONOURS

Flag Officer Portsmouth’s Commendations
Lieutenant Commander I. Latimer
Lieutenant L. Keeble
Fleet Chief Medical Technician A. Prodger

HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS

Lieutenant F. Reed—MSc
Lieutenant N. McLaren—MSc

PROMOTIONS

To Lieutenant Commander
J. K. Millward
To Lieutenant
M. Raven
QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL NAVAL NURSING SERVICE

Miss J. Robertson RRC, who took up her appointment as Matron-in-Chief and Director of Naval Nursing Services on 29 April 1983.

APPOINTMENTS

As Principal Nursing Officer to Surgeon Rear Admiral (Support Medical Services) on 5 April 1983
Miss E. M. Northway RRC

As Deputy to Matron-in-Chief on 29 March 1983
Miss E. Meiklejohn ARRC

PROMOTIONS

To Superintending Nursing Officer
Miss K. A. Bowick; Mrs B. A. Johnson

To Senior Nursing Officer
Miss J. E. Brinkley; Miss J. M. Onions; CMT(2)R. Purussam; MT(2)R. J. Penn; Mrs C. A. Tunnicliffe; MT(2)R. N. Thompson

To Senior Clerical & Quarters Officer
Miss P. M. White

To Nursing Officer
MT(2)R. S. M. McArthur

RETIREMENTS

Mrs M. P. Allen, Superintending Nursing Officer
Miss H. E. J. Gillespie, Superintending Nursing Officer
Mrs L. J. Hammond, Superintending Nursing Officer
Miss M. L. T. Miller, Superintending Nursing Officer

Miss Margaret Collins, CBE, RRC, QHNS, Matron-in-Chief QARNNS and Director of Naval Nursing Services, retired earlier this year after 30 years service in the QARNNS. Her first appointment in 1953 was to RNH Haslar and she subsequently served in the Royal Naval Hospitals at Hong Kong, Plymouth and Malta. Away from the naval hospitals she held appointments in HMS Phoenix (district duties), HMS Ganges, HMS President and HMS St Angelo. Between 1972–75 she served as Matron first at RNH Plymouth and then at RNH Haslar. Prior to taking up her appointment as Matron-in-Chief in 1980, she was Deputy to Matron-in-Chief and Principal Matron (Naval Hospitals) on the staff of Surgeon Rear Admiral (Naval Hospitals).

Miss Collins was awarded the ARRC in 1965, the RRC in 1978 and the CBE in the New Year Honours List 1983. She was admitted to the Grade of Officer Sister in the Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem in 1978 and appointed Honorary Nursing Sister to Her Majesty the Queen in April 1980.

Throughout her career she has been a noteworthy QARNNS officer and a respected nurse. In her many administrative appointments she strove tirelessly to uphold the traditions of the Service while ensuring the implementation and achievement of advanced nursing practices. As Matron-in-Chief she will be remembered for her progressive ideas and determination to preserve the esteem in which the QARNNS is held in the Royal Navy and amongst civilian professional bodies.

We wish her a happy retirement and confidently predict that she will channel her energies with the same enthusiasm which she has displayed throughout her Service career.