# columns

humorous and perpetually optimistic. Even in his last few years, he hardly ever complained, though, at times he would discreetly dissent by switching off his hearing aid. Despite his love of companionship, he was a sensitive and private man. He leaves three children, Julian, Emma and James, and five grandchildren.

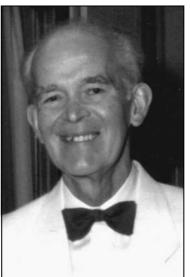
SAINSBURY, P. (1975) Suicide and attempted suicide. In Psychiatrie der Gegenwart, pp. 559-603, Springer-Verlag

D. J. Pallis

#### **David Kennedy**

### Formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Crichton Royal, Dumfries

David Kennedy was born on 27 July 1931 in Teheran, Iran, the son of a Scottish banker. He returned to Scotland aged 6 and attended Hutchesons' Grammar School, Glasgow, where he excelled in Classics. He was dux in 1949 and joint editor of the Hutchesonian. Having won a bursary, he proceeded to Glasgow University in 1949, graduating in medicine in 1955. His best friend, who also proceeded from Hutchesons' to Glasgow University, described him as 'the brightest of the bright', and in his first year at Medical School he gained four distinctions out of four, a stellar performance for



someone who had previously been steeped in Latin and Greek. He continued to gain distinctions throughout his undergraduate years.

After house jobs, David did National Service for 3 years, mostly in Cyprus. Thereafter, he returned to Scotland and for 1 year was Assistant Medical Officer for Health in Ayr, where he obtained the DPH, taking the McKinley Prize (Anderson College, Glasgow University). By then he had decided to specialise in psychiatry, first as a Registrar at Hartwood Hospital and then at the Crichton Royal, Dumfries. Then, after obtaining the DPM, he took up a post of lecturer at the Royal Cornhill

Hospital, Aberdeen, where he was involved in the Aberdeen Psychiatric Case Registers. He returned to the Crichton Royal as consultant in 1970, effectively running a large unit, although later specialising in the treatment of alcohol and drug addiction and interpreting electroencephalograms (EEGs). He was made a Foundation Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1971.

He will be remembered for his quiet, gentle manner and his patience and the respect from both colleagues and patients. He retired in 1988 to enjoy his hobbies of walking, music, painting, wine making and cooking, but continued sessions in the EEG Department, Crichton Royal, both interpreting and teaching, and later likewise at the Garlands Hospital, Carlisle.

Later much of his time was spent travelling with his wife, frequently to Europe, but also further afield to India, China, America and Russia, and he had just returned from a trip exploring the Yukatan Peninsula of Mexico 3 days before he died.

He also enjoyed the theatre, opera, concerts, art galleries, antigues, and especially, good restaurants and good wine. He was able to indulge these cultural activities by having a flat in Edinburgh for many years as well as his home in the Lake District.

He is survived by a son and two daughters and his second wife, Joan, herself a consultant child psychiatrist.

Joan Kennedy, Allan C. Tait

## forthcoming events

#### **Developing Consultancy Skills:** Using a Systems-Psychodynamics

Framework is an 8-day course run in four 2-day blocks from November 2004-February 2005 at the Cassel Hospital (West London Mental Health Trust) in Richmond, Surrey. It is likely to be of particular interest to child psychiatry consultants and specialist registrars, and

to consultant psychotherapists who are often asked to provide input to clinical teams and outside agencies. Most of the course takes place in small workshops designed to develop participants' skills in analysing presenting requests, negotiating contracts, designing interventions, balancing attention to group dynamics and structural issues and learning to use

emotional responses as data about the client system. For further information, please visit the website at www. thecasselhospital.org or contact Dr Vega Roberts, Director of the Management and Leadership in Mental Health Services Programme (tel: 020 8237 2947; e-mail: Jennifer.Lomath@wlmht.nhs.uk).

