

Vera took a special interest in the families of children with chronic and life threatening illnesses, helping to relieve pain and anxiety. She was particularly interested in the problem of juvenile arthritis, and worked closely with the specialists in physical medicine at the Canadian Red Cross Hospital in Taplow until it closed, and wrote a number of papers on this problem.

Vera led her team at the Slough Child Guidance Clinic, which was a truly multi-disciplinary one, providing support for other professionals, and maintaining strong links in the community with health visitors, school medical officers and educational welfare officers. Her special contribution was her ability to be both a mother and a specialist to the families that sought her help, and it was noticeable how quickly anxious mothers with difficult children were put at their ease after meeting her. She set no limits to the demands on her time and worked a punishing round of clinics, case conferences and professional meetings. She even took work into hospital with her when she was having a cataract operation not long before she died. She was a skilled and dispassionate clinician and a scrupulous administrator.

Vera enjoyed reading, gardening, and travelling abroad, especially to Italy, where she had a farmhouse. She was a constant and steadfast support to her family, to whom she was devoted. She will be much missed by all those who had the privilege of working with her.

JHN

OLIVER ZANGWILL, Emeritus Professor of Experimental Psychology, University of Cambridge

Oliver Zangwill, an Honorary Fellow of the College, died on 12 October 1987 after a long and disabling illness.

Although he was the doyen of British experimental psychologists and honoured for this, psychiatrists too have good reason to remember him with gratitude and affection, for he worked constantly to foster understanding between our two professions. Born in 1913, the son of Israel Zangwill, the turn-of-the-century novelist and chronicler of Jewish ghetto life (*Children of the Ghetto; King of the Schnorrers*) and campaigner for liberal causes, Oliver grew up in a cultured London Jewish household where his intellectual brilliance soon became clear. From University College School, London, he came up to Cambridge in the 1930s and went through King's College where he had a distinguished career winning prizes and Firsts. He spent 1935 to 1940 in psychological research in Cambridge and then, during the War, worked as psychologist to Norman Dott's Neurosurgery Unit in Edinburgh. After the War he was Assistant Director of the Institute of Experimental Psychology in Oxford, working closely with Sir Hugh

Cairns. It was during these years that he did outstanding work on cerebral location, in particular as it affected memory disturbance.

In 1952 he went back to Cambridge as Professor and lived and worked there ever since. He gradually pulled the department together and his laboratory served as a starting point for several who have since become eminent in psychology, such as Weiskrantz, Gregory and Hudson. He always encouraged psychiatrists who were interested in academic work, first Derek Russell Davies in the 1950s and, much later, Sir Martin Roth and his Department, but his commitment to psychiatric work went much further. Having had personal experience in his family of long-term psychosis, he was deeply committed to the reforms and social psychiatric advances at Fulbourn Hospital during the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, even coming on the Hospital Management Committee for several years in order to support the new ideas which were at that time struggling for recognition. He guided Douglas Hooper to his important social studies of the changes on the long-stay wards at Fulbourn following the application of social therapy.

He always looked forward to the day when there would be an Academic Department of Psychiatry within Cambridge University and was disappointed when the proposal for a Cambridge Clinical School was defeated in the early 1960s. When, in the 1970s, the Clinical Medical School came into being he welcomed Martin Roth and gave great help in the setting up of the new Department.

In 1980 his services to psychiatry were recognised by an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College.

A kindly, courteous man of diffident charm, he was always ready to help any of us with shrewd advice quietly given, and he came to operate deftly amidst the Byzantine politics of Cambridge University. His tall, stooped patrician figure was well known, especially in King's College where he lived for a number of years. In his later years he made a good and happy marriage with Shirley who supported him nobly during his final illness.

DHC

The deaths of the following have also been reported:

GEOFFREY FULLER HARRIS, Consultant Psychiatrist, St Lawrence's Hospital, Caterham, Surrey.

JOHN ROGER HAWKINGS, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, North Tees General Hospital, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland.