



Challenging Behaviour: A Unified Approach

College Report CR144, June 2007, Royal College of Psychiatrists, British Psychological Society & Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, £12.50, 80 pp

This report is the result of a joint working group of the learning disability faculties of the British Psychological Society and the Royal College of Psychiatrists, in consultation with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. The main focus is on adults who are vulnerable to restrictive interventions and abuse as a consequence of their limited capacity to make choices for themselves about where they live or

work, and how they are supported. Although it focuses primarily on adults with moderate to severe learning disabilities, the broad principles outlined are applicable to children and adults of all degrees of intellectual disability.

The report aims to:

- revise and develop the interpretation of the term 'challenging behaviour'
- bring together relevant evidence-based practice with a consensus of clinical opinion and experience
- provide a unified framework for good practice in multidisciplinary clinical and social interventions
- encourage the development of creative, flexible and effective responses to individuals who present behavioural challenges
- provide guidance for service developers and commissioners to inform and empower service users and their carers
- provide a set of standards of good practice against which service provision can be benchmarked and audited

- promote the development of comprehensive and effective local services and reduce the number of individuals who are failed by the current service provision
- provide a framework for training of health and social care professionals and paid support staff and carers
- guide future research and development.

Challenging behaviour requires a multidisciplinary and multi-agency approach, and therefore the report has been produced with the intention that it will be relevant and useful to a wide range of health and social care professionals, family and paid carers, service providers and commissioners.

It is intended to provoke action as much as to inform, and to encourage local and national debate, analysis, review and response.

doi: 10.1192/pb.31.10.400

obituary

John Edward Barclay

Formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Winwick Hospital, Warrington and Ormskirk General Hospital, Lancs.

John Edward Barclay was born in 1929. During his childhood years he developed an enduring love of the outdoors, particularly walking and cycling. As he got older his passions extended to rock climbing, skiing, fell walking, opera and jazz. In 1947 John was called up for National Service, serving with the Household Cavalry in Germany. He represented the Royal Horse Guards' (the Blues') fencing team and later captained Liverpool University fencing team, where he became four times winner of the Alyward Sword of Honour. He also represented Lancashire and Cheshire Fencing Union and the North of England at foil. In 1952 he won the fencing event at the Winter Pentathlon in Bad Gastein, Austria. Then, while in the army, John also represented the Blues at riflshooting at Bisley and was awarded the Bronze Cross of the Army Rifle Association. During this time he honed his skiing skills, representing first the Army and breaking the British



50 km cross-country skiing record that he went on to hold for 7 years, then being selected for the British Olympic Ski Team at the 1956 Winter Olympics in Cortina, Italy.

The following year he took up a position as house surgeon at St Helens Hospital, going on to obstetrics and gynaecology at Ormskirk Hospital where he met Claire, who was also a junior doctor. They married in 1957. John contracted tuberculosis and was in bed for 3 months, with a further 7 months off work. In 1964 he became consultant

psychiatrist at Winwick Hospital, Warrington and Ormskirk General Hospital, Lancs.

John was a gentleman, modest, kind and generous, with a calm and considered approach, but was tenacious when required. He had a wonderfully dry wit, even up to the end. During a severe winter and much to his children's embarrassment, unable to get to his out-patients' clinic owing to heavy snow, John donned his skis and trusty balaclava and went cross country to the hospital, receiving applause from students at Edge Hill College as he passed by. He left his skis and sticks in his reserved parking space! He was a dedicated and conscientious psychiatrist, highly regarded by colleagues and loved by his patients. He retired in 1988.

John, a committed Christian with deep religious beliefs, was never afraid of dying and looked forward to what he referred to as 'The Last Great Adventure'. He bore his long illness with typical stoicism, never complaining, always aware of those worse off than himself. John suffered from Lewy body disease for over 6 years, but enjoyed periods of lucidity until he died on 5 June 2007. He leaves a wife, Claire, seven children and 14 grandchildren.

Emad Salib

doi: 10.1192/pb.bp.107.017467