

Obituaries

Obituaries should be submitted by email to Jadene Doak at jadene.doak@springernature.com

All submitted obituaries should be 400 words maximum in length (apart from obituaries for past presidents of the BDA where the length should be 800 words).

Content of the obituary is down to the individual author, and the approval of the family should be given for the obituary prior to submission to the *BDJ*.



David Mason

1928–2022

Professor Sir David Mason, who died on 27 March 2022, made significant contributions that have had a lasting impact upon oral health care.

A graduate in Dentistry from St Andrews, and Medicine from Glasgow, David achieved Professorship at the University of Glasgow in 1967 at the age of 39 years. He was Dean of the Dental School for ten years before being appointed President of the General Dental Council between 1989 and 1994.

As Chair of Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology, he mentored a host of young academics who went on to impactful success within the UK and across the globe. As Dean he helped raise funds that ultimately led to the establishment of the West of Scotland Centre for Postgraduate Education, while as Convenor of the Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, he assured the establishment of the TC White Bequest Fund for Dentistry.

David was President of the British Society for Dental Research (BSDR) and together with a number of senior colleagues he established the British Society for Oral Medicine (BSOM). Highlights of his GDC Presidency included the establishment of a five-year BDS curriculum and the commencement of formalising continued professional development.

Internationally, David helped establish the European Association of Oral Medicine (EAOM) – now a significant force across the globe. Together with Dean Millard of the University of Michigan, he established the World Workshop in Oral Medicine (WWOM) in 1988.

David did not shirk from life. He excelled in sport, particularly golf; indeed, he represented Scotland in international golf tournaments, was a member of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and could easily squash upstart students in any competition. He lived to share with, and care for, others. He was an interested, encouraging and playful father, grandfather and great grandfather, devoted and caring husband to his highly supportive wife Judy for 55 years. He was dapper, organised, open and honest, welcoming and humorous. His professional achievements were recognised nationally and internationally; his sustained impact being acknowledged by his elevation from CBE to KBE in 1992. Clinicians, patients, students and the public should be thankful for the achievements of Professor David Mason – and we all should be grateful to his family for the love and support they provided to him.

S. R. Porter and A. Crighton



Ogilvie Nicoll

1942–2021

Although Ogilvie's last few years were blighted by dementia, the achievements of his professional life and dedicated service to his patients, colleagues and profession should not be allowed to pass unacknowledged. Within three days of graduating, BDS, from Edinburgh University, he joined his father's practice, his father being seriously ill, and by the 1980s the practice had expanded from Lochgelly to Inverkeithing in Fife. Early on, Ogilvie held regular practice meetings, encouraging participation by all practice staff leading to a happy, well-run professional service. Ogilvie extended this philosophy to

like-minded dentists in Fife and Lothian, and with them set up an early audit group.

Ogilvie joined Fife Local Dental Committee and was elected to the General Dental Services Committee of the BDA; thus began a lifetime involvement in committee work. He served as a much-valued Vice Chairman of the Scottish GDSC for nine years, during the build up to the Scottish Parliament. His interest in continuing education made him the ideal person to be appointed Course Organiser for the newly set up East of Scotland Scheme, mentoring dentists to become principled, effective professionals. Ogilvie was a very valued member of the Scottish VT Committee for many years. He was a member of the steering group set up to progress matters towards and eventually establish the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners of the Royal College of Surgeons, England; his involvement culminating in the award of DGDP, at the first Diplomate Ceremony in 1992.

For his work in all these areas, the Scottish Conference of Local Dental Committees awarded him one of their first Lifetime Achievement Awards and in 2003 the award of BDA Life Membership acknowledged his unstinting service to dentistry. Having been an active Round Tabler, Ogilvie also enjoyed 41 Club. A conscientious church elder, he always made time for individual congregants.

The family have many happy memories of their caravanning holidays at home and abroad. They can be justly proud of Ogilvie's very considerable contribution to his profession. He carried out all his duties with humility and good humour, and in our long association, Ogilvie always treated everyone he met with respect. He is survived by Aileen, his beloved and loving wife, his three daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren. He was above all a family man and was immensely proud of all their achievements over the years.

Alastair I. MacLean