



In 2001 he decided that he had done enough in the public sphere and, thereafter, worked quietly as a psychiatrist at St Edmundsbury Hospital in Dublin. He had been very well and was returning from a happy holiday with his wife Jane in Sardinia when he died suddenly of a heart attack during a stop-over in Paris on 28 October. He is survived by Jane and their seven children. There was a huge funeral on Thursday 1 November with 700 attendees, including half the political and media establishment of Dublin; particularly impressive was the number of his own patients who came to pay their personal respects and show their gratitude. His son Simon gave a touching farewell in which he pointed out that his highly energetic father packed an amazing amount into the

average day, rushing from buying the family shopping and collecting the various children, to lecturing at medical school, seeing patients in hospital, and doing TV interviews; as a result, he was often running late. Sadly, said Simon, the one thing that Tony was early for in his life was his death!

Tony Clare's legacy includes many present-day psychiatrists who were persuaded to take up the specialty by the inspirational model that he provided. Tony himself did not always appreciate what a wonderful service he had done for our subject. For several years he declined the offer of an Honorary Fellowship from the Royal College of Psychiatrists, saying that he had not done enough to merit this. However, because the College kept

coming back to him (and many thanks to the Officers!), he eventually gave in and accepted the Honorary Fellowship in 2007. This was very fitting because Tony was the psychiatrist who made the greatest impact on the public consciousness over the last 30 years, as demonstrated by the many tributes to him in the newspapers, TV and radio. After I left the funeral, I took a taxi to Dublin airport. The driver asked me where I had been. When I told him, he sighed and said 'He was a grand man, that Tony Clare. I always listened to him whatever he was on. He made everything interesting'. He did indeed!

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forthcoming events

The **5th National Old Psychiatry Specialist/Specialty Registrar Conference 'Practice, Probity and Pitfalls'** is to be held on 18–19 April 2008 at the Radisson SAS Hotel in

Birmingham. Sessions will include clinical, ethical and medico-legal topics. The conference provides an excellent opportunity to meet old age psychiatry trainees from other regions. For further information, please email: adele.saidler@bsmht.nhs.uk.

A World Psychiatry Association (WPA) co-sponsored **International Conference on Conflict, Mental Health and Making the Peace** will take place at the Institute of Psychiatry in London on 12–13 May 2008. Eminent speakers will include: Professor Juan Mezzich, WPA President; Professor John Cox, WPA Secretary General; Professors Rachel McDougall Jenkins, Robin Murray and Simon Wessely of the Institute of Psychiatry; Dr Colin Murray Parkes (UK), Janet Gerson (New York) of Columbia University, Director of International Institute of Peace Education; and Maria Ammon (Berlin), President of World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry. Other experts from Israel, Palestine, Athens, Istanbul, Cyprus, Iraq, Iran and Northern Ireland will be present. Chairs of key sessions include Professor Hamid Ghodse, Professor George Ikkos, and

Drs Alan Kerr and Majid Al Yassiri. The registration fee is £260 including conference dinner. There is a reduced rate for non-European Union delegates. Places are limited. For further information, please email the conference organiser: nd.minton@btinternet.com.

The **12th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour (ESSSB12)** will be held in Glasgow on 27–30 August 2008 under the auspices of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP). The Symposium theme will be 'Working Together to Prevent Suicide: Research, Policy and Practice'. This is the largest suicide prevention conference in Europe and a flagship event of IASP which operates in official relations with the World Health Organization. The Symposium, a bi-annual event, is being organised jointly by the Universities of Stirling and Edinburgh, in partnership with the Suicide Information Research and Evidence Network with support from the Scottish Government and NHS Health Scotland. The conference is run not-for-profit and aims to attract more than 400 delegates from across the world, primarily from Europe, the USA, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. The delegates, drawn from across the voluntary and statutory sectors, will include academics, clinicians, volunteers, survivors, policy-

planners and many others with an interest in suicide prevention. The closing date for submissions for presentations is 3 March 2008. Full details of the conference together with the instructions for abstract submission and delegate rates are available from www.esssb12.org.

The **5th World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and the Prevention of Mental and Behavioural Disorders: From Margins to Mainstream**. This event will take place on 10–12 September 2008 at the Melbourne Convention Centre in Australia. Accepting responsibility for mental health should be everybody's business. This conference will explore new ways that health services, governments and community organisations can promote mental health and prevent mental illness. The conference is organised by VicHealth, the World Federation for Mental Health, The Clifford Beers Foundation and the Carter Center Mental Health Program. It is supported by the World Health Organization, AUSEINET and the Global Consortium for Prevention and Promotion in Mental Health. For further information, please visit www.margins2mainstream.com.

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