

References

- (1) Raz J. *Practical reason and norms*. London: Hutchinson, 1975.
- (2) Raz J. *The morality of freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1986.
- (3) Raz J. *Practical reasoning*. Oxford: OUP, 1978: 130. Raz also offers several other examples of second-order reasoning, see reference (1): 37–39.
- (4) This case is discussed in Creighton H. *Law every nurse should know* (4th ed). Philadelphia: W B Saunders and Co, 1981: 334.

Obituary

Dr R D Catterall, CBE, FRCP, 1918–1993

It was Duncan Catterall's popularity with students that caused our paths to cross. In the late 60s I had recently established the London Medical Group in an attempt to introduce medical ethics into medical education. He had recently been appointed to the Middlesex. When they appreciated what I was trying to do, some Middlesex students said I ought to meet Dr Duncan Catterall.

When I went to see him at James Pringle House (in clericals – I leave you to picture the scene) it was to be the beginning of twenty-five years' collaboration.

I have an enduring memory of the first of many meetings in his office. Always the immaculate white coat, always the shining desk top, devoid of papers, always the total attention and the smile, and that gracious welcome which put one at ease.

He could immediately appreciate the aims of the LMG – a student group for the study of issues raised by the practice of medicine which concern other disciplines – and agreed to serve on its Consultative Council, which, from 1973 until he retired, he chaired.

It was my task to translate topics chosen by students into an annual programme of symposia which involved identifying some two hundred consultants and others. There was no way that I, knowing little of the medical world, could hope to succeed in this task, without taking advice. But what I received from Duncan Catterall was total commitment to the exercise. Year after year, at a

crucial stage in the preparation of the following year's lecture list, he would put aside time to go through, in great detail, each of some forty-eight symposia, to ensure the highest possible standard. His concern was for excellence, and his care was for the students involved.

Without his friendship and support and his effective involvement of others, I have no doubt at all that the LMG would not have developed as it did. He served on the Governing Body of the Institute of Medical Ethics and was a founder member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Medical Ethics*.

I greatly enjoyed his company. He was urbane and debonair. He was an excellent chairman. He enjoyed good conversation and table talk, and when the LMG adopted the practice of students entertaining the lecturers to dinner, instead of a fee, he was at once at home in this milieu.

It seems only yesterday that we met at the RSM for lunch. He was very much himself and better than at our previous meeting. The wine was excellent and the conversation flowed until he tired and we parted.

It occurred to me afterwards that he was saying Goodbye. May he rest in peace.

An appreciation by the Dean of Rochester, The Very Revd Edward Shoter, at the Thanksgiving for the Life and Work of Duncan Catterall at the Middlesex Hospital on 26th May, 1993.